W. G. GRACE.

THE

CRICKET-FIELD.

BY

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"Gaudet . . . . aprici gramine campi.
Pila velox,
Molliter austerum studio fallente laborem."
HORACE.

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PREFACE.

AS the author of this book proposes to write the history of the Game of Cricket, the question will arise what are his authorities. He commenced collecting his materials nearly forty years ago, before Beldham, Fennex, Sparkes, Bennett, and others of the old players had passed away—men who had seen the last of the Hambledon and the first of the Marylebone Club. Next in date and order, Mr. W. Waid, Mr. E. H. Budd, with Beagley, Caldecourt, and Bentley contributed.

The author was also much assisted, first by a MS. by the Rev. John Mitford, some time editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, in which he had written several papers on Cricket in early

times; secondly, by Bentley's "Book of Scores;" and thirdly, by "Old Nyren," both of which books opened up various sources of valuable information.

BRIGHTON, 1*st May*, 1873.

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THE CRICKET FIELD.

CHAPTER I.

ORIGIN OF THE GAME OF CRICKET.

THE game of Cricket, in some rude form, is undoubtedly as old as the thirteenth century. But whether at that early date Cricket was the name it generally bore, is quite another question. For Club-Ball we believe to be the name which usually stood for Cricket in the thirteenth century; though, at the same time, we have some curious evidence that the term Cricket at that early period was also known. But the identity of the game with that now in use is the chief point; the name is of secondary consideration. Games commonly change their names, as every school-boy knows, and bear different appellations in different places.

Nevertheless, all previous writers acquiescing

quietly in the opinion of Strutt, expressed in his "Sports and Pastimes," not only forget that Cricket may be older than its name, but erroneously suppose that the name of Cricket occurs in no author in the English language of an earlier date than Thomas D'Urfey, who, in his "Pills to Purge Melancholy," writes thus:—

> "Herr was the prettiest fellow
> At foot-ball and at *Cricket;*
> At hunting chase or nimble race
> *How featly* Herr could prick it."

The words "how featly" Strutt properly writes in place of a revolting old-fashioned oath in the original.

Strutt, therefore, in these lines quotes the word Cricket as first occurring in 1710.

About the same date Pope wrote,—

> "The Judge to dance his brother Sergeants call,
> The Senators at *Cricket* urge the ball."

And Duncome, curious to observe, laying the scene of a match near Canterbury, wrote,—

> "An ill-timed *Cricket-Match* there did
> At Bishops-bourne befal."

Soame Jenyns, about the same time, wrote:—

> "England, when once of peace and wealth possessed,
> Began to think frugality a jest;
> So grew polite: hence all her well-bred heirs
> Gamesters and jockeys turned, and *Cricket*-players."
> Ep. I. b. ii. *init.*

These lines show that Cricket was very much of a sporting amusement, and not of a high class either.

In our first edition, we thought it no slight triumph to say that, even among comparatively modern authors, we had beaten Strutt in his researches by twenty-five years; for Edward Philips, John Milton's nephew,—in his "Mysteries of Love and Eloquence, or the Arts of Wooing and Complimenting, the Treatments of Ladies at Balls, Sports, Drolls, the Witchcrafts of their Persuasive Language, &c.," 1685, 8vo. —has the following passage:—

"Will you not, when you have me, throw stocks at my head and cry, 'Would my eyes had been beaten out of my head with a *cricket-ball* the day before I saw thee?'"

But this is a casual mention of the term. We have lately found a passage which proves that, nine years earlier, the English residents at Antioch practised Cricket amongst other English sports:—

"This morning early [6th May, 1676] (as is the custom all the summer long) at least forty of the English, with his worship the consul, rode out of the city [Antioch] about four miles, to a fine valley by a river-side to recreate themselves. There a princely tent was pitched, and we had several pastimes and sports, as duck-hunting, fishing, shooting, hand-ball, and *Cricket*, and then a noble dinner brought thither with great plenty of all sorts of wines, punch, and lemonade; and at six

o'clock we returned all home in good order, but soundly tired and weary."—From "the Diary of Henry Teonge, Chaplain on board his Majesty Charles II.'s ships *Assistance*, *Bristol*, and *Royal Oak*, A.D. 1675—1679."

We shall presently trace the game at Winchester College, twenty-six years earlier.

A late author has very sensibly remarked, that Cricket could not have been popular in the days of Elizabeth, or we should expect to find allusions to that game, as to tennis, foot-ball, and other sports, in the early poets; but Shakespeare and the dramatists who followed, he observes, are silent on the subject.

As to the silence of the early poets and dramatists on the game of Cricket—and no one conversant with English literature would expect to find it except in some casual allusion or illustration in an old play—this silence we can confirm on the best authority. What if we presumed to advance that the early dramatists, one and all, ignore the very name of Cricket. How bold a negative! So rare are certain old plays that a hundred pounds have been paid by the Duke of Devonshire for a single copy of a few loose and soiled leaves; and shall we pretend to have dived among such hidden stores? We are so fortunate as to be favoured with the assistance of the Rev. John Mitford, and our loving cousin, John Payne

Collier, two English scholars, most deeply versed in early literature, and no bad judges of Cricket: and since these two scholars have never met with any mention of Cricket in the early dramatists, or in any author earlier than 1685, there seems much reason to believe that "Cricket" is a word which does not occur in any English author before the year 1685.

But there is a much earlier date to which we can trace the game of Cricket—even to the year 1548. In Russell's "History of Guildford," we find one John Derrick attesting that to that year at least he had known a piece of waste land "where he and his schoolfellows did run and play at Cricket."

At Maidstone, Cricket would appear to have been known about the same date. For, in the "Life and Death of Thomas Wilson," 1672, we find Maidstone exciting the wrath of this Puritan divine as a very profane town, where, said his biographer, "I have seen morrice-dancing, cudgel-playing, stool-ball and Cricketts, and many other sports on the Lord's Day."

Now as regards the silence of the early poets, a game like Cricket might certainly exist without falling in with the allusions or topics of poetical writers. Still, if we actually find distinct cata-

logues and enumerations of English games before the date of 1685, and Cricket is omitted, the suspicion that Cricket was not then the popular name of one of the many games of ball (not that the game itself was positively unknown) is strongly confirmed.

Six such catalogues are preserved: one in the "Anatomy of Melancholy," a second in a well-known treatise of James I., and a third in the "Cotswold Games," with three others.

I. For the first catalogue, Strutt reminds us of the set of rules from the hand of James I. for the "Nurture and Conduct of an Heir-apparent to the Throne," addressed to his eldest son, Henry Prince of Wales, called the ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΩΡΟΝ, or "A Kinge's Christian Dutie towards God." Herein the king forbids gaming and rough play: "As to diceing, I think it becometh best deboshed souldiers to play on the heads of their drums. As to the foote-ball, it is meeter for laming than making able the users thereof." But a special commendation is given to certain games of ball; "playing at the catch or tennis, palle-malle, and *such like other* fair and pleasant *field-games.*" Certainly Cricket may have been included under the last general ex-

pression, though by no means a fashionable game in James's reign.

II. For the second catalogue of games, Burton, in his "Anatomy of Melancholy,"—"the only book," said Dr. Johnson, "that ever took me out of bed two hours sooner than I wished to rise,"—gives a few of the sports most prevalent in the seventeenth century. Here we have a very full enumeration: it specifies the pastimes of "great men," and those of "base inferior persons;" it mentions "the rocks on which men lose themselves" by gambling; "how wealth runs away with their hounds, and their fortunes fly away with their hawks." Then follow "the sights and shows of the Londoners," and the "May-games and recreations of the country-folk." More minutely still, Burton speaks of "rope-dancers, cock-fights," and other sports common both to town and country; still, though Burton is so exact as to specify all "winter recreations" separately, and mentions even "foot-balls and ballowns," saying, "Let the common people play at ball and barley-brakes," there is in all this catalogue no mention whatever of Cricket.

III. As a third catalogue, we have the "Cotswold Games," but Cricket is not among them. This was an annual celebration which one

Captain Dover, by express permission and command of James I., held on the Cotswold Hills, in Gloucestershire.

IV. Cricket is not mentioned in "The Compleat Gamester," published by Charles Browne, in 1709.

V. "I have many editions of Chamberlayne's 'State of England,'" kindly writes Mr. T. B. Macaulay, "published between 1670 and 1700, and I observe he never mentions Cricket among the national games, of which he gives a long list."

VI. The great John Locke wrote in 1679:—

"The sports of England for a curious stranger to see, are horse-racing, hawking, hunting, and bowling: at Marebone and Putney he may see several persons of quality bowling two or three times a week; also, wrestling in Lincoln's Inn Fields every evening; bear and bull-baiting at the bear-garden; shooting with the long-bow, and stob-ball, in Tothill Fields; and cudgel-playing in the country, and hurling in Cornwall."

Here again we have no Cricket. Stob-ball is a different game.

Nevertheless we have a catalogue of games in 1598, in Stow's "Survey of London," and there Cricket is mentioned; but, remarkably enough, it is particularised as one of the amusements of "the lower classes." The whole passage is curious:—

"The modern sports of the citizens, *besides drinking* (!), are

cock-fighting, bowling upon greens, backgammon, cards, dice, billiards, also musical entertainments, dancing, masks, balls, stage-plays, and club-meetings in the evening; they sometimes ride out on horseback, and hunt with the lord mayor's pack of dogs, when the common hunt goes on. The *lower classes* divert themselves at foot-ball, wrestling, cudgels, ninepins, shovel-board, *Cricket*, stow-ball, ringing of bells, quoits, pitching the bar, bull and bear-baitings, throwing at cocks, and lying at ale-houses" (!).

The lawyers have a rule that to specify one thing is to ignore the other; and this rule of evidence can never be more applicable than where a sport is omitted from six distinct catalogues; therefore, the conclusion that Cricket was unknown when those lists were made would indeed appear utterly irresistible, only—*audi semper alteram partem*—in this case the argument would prove too much; for it would equally prove that Club-ball and Trap-ball were undiscovered too, whereas both these games are confessedly as old as the thirteenth century!

The conclusion of all this is, that the oft-repeated assertion that Cricket is a game no older than the eighteenth century is erroneous; for, first, the thing itself may be much older than its name; and, secondly, the "silence of antiquity" is no conclusive evidence that even the name of Cricket was really unknown.

Thus do we refute those who assert a negative

as to the antiquity of Cricket; and now for our affirmative. We are prepared to show—

First, that a single-wicket game was played as early as the thirteenth century, under the name of Club-ball.

Secondly, that it might have been identical with a sport of the same date called "Handyn and Handoute."

Thirdly, that a genuine double-wicket game was played in Scotland about 1700, under the name of "Cat and Dog."

Fourthly, that "Creag"—very near "Cricce," the Saxon term for the crooked stick, or bandy, which we see in the old pictures of cricket—was the name of a game played in the year 1300.

First, as to a single-wicket game in the thirteenth century, whatever the name of the said game might have been, we are quite satisfied with the following proof:—

"In the Bodleian Library at Oxford," says Strutt, "is a MS. (No. 264) dated 1344, which represents a figure, a female, in the act of bowling a ball (of the size of a modern cricket-ball) to a man who elevates a straight bat to strike it; behind the bowler are several figures, male and female, waiting to stop or catch the ball, their attitudes grotesquely eager for a 'chance.' The game is called Club-ball, but the score is made by hitting and running, as in Cricket."

Secondly, Barrington, in his "Remarks on the

More Ancient Statutes," comments on 17 Edw. IV., A.D. 1477, thus :—

"The disciplined soldiers were not only guilty of pilfering on their return, but also of the vice of gaming. The third chapter therefore forbids playing at cloish, ragle, half-bowle, quekeborde, *handyn and handoute.* Whosoever shall permit these games to be played in their house or yard is punishable with three years' imprisonment; those who play at any of the said games are to be fined £10, or lie in jail two years."

"This," says Barrington, "is the most severe law ever made in any country against gaming; and some of those forbidden seem to have been manly exercises, particularly the 'handyn and handoute,' which I should suppose to be a kind of *Cricket*, as the term *hands* is still (writing in 1740) retained in that game."

Thirdly, as to the double-wicket game, Dr. Jamieson, in his Dictionary, published in 1722, gives the following account of a game played in Angus and Lothian :—

"This is a game for three players at least, who are furnished with clubs. They cut out two holes, each about a foot in diameter and seven inches in depth, and twenty-six feet apart; one man guards each hole with his club; these clubs are called Dogs. A piece of wood, about four inches long and one inch in diameter, called a Cat, is pitched, by a third person, from one hole towards the player at the other, who is to prevent the cat from getting into the hole. If it pitches in the hole, the party who threw it takes his turn with the club. If the cat be struck, the club-bearers change places, and each change of place counts one to the score like *club-ball.*"

The last observation shows that in the game of Club-ball above-mentioned, the score was made by "runs," as in Cricket.

In what respect, then, do these games differ from Cricket as played now? The only exception that can be taken is to the absence of any wicket. But every one familiar with a paper given by Mr. Ward, and published in "Old Nyren," by the ingenious Mr. C. Cowden Clarke, will remember that the traditionary "blockhole" was a veritable hole in former times, and that the batsman was made Out in running, not, as now, by putting down a wicket, but by popping the ball into the hole before the bat was grounded in it. The same paper represents that the wicket was two feet wide—a width which is only rendered credible by the fact that the said hole was not, like our mark for guard, four feet distant from the stumps, but cut like a basin in the turf between the stumps; an arrangement which would require space for the frequent struggle of the batsman and wicket-keeper, as to whether the bat of the one or the hand of the other should reach the blockhole first.

The conclusion of all is, that Cricket is identical with Club-ball—a game played in the thirteenth century as single-wicket, and played, if not then, somewhat later, as a double-wicket game; that where balls were scarce, a Cat, or bit of wood, as seen in many a village, supplied its

place; also that "handyn and handoute" was probably only another name. Fosbroke, in his "Dictionary of Antiquities," said, "Club-ball was the ancestor of Cricket:" he might have said, "Club-ball was the old name for Cricket, the games themselves being the same."

The points of difference are not greater than every cricketer can show between the game as now played and that of the last century.

But, lastly, as to the name of Cricket. The bat, which is now straight, is represented in old pictures as crooked, and "cricce" is the simple Saxon word for a crooked stick. The derivation of Billiards from the Norman *billart*, a cue, or from *ball-yard*, according to Johnson, also Nine-pins and Trap-ball, are obvious instances of games which derived their names from the implements with which they are played. Now, it appears highly probable that the crooked stick used in the game of Bandy might have been gradually adopted, especially when a wicket to be bowled down by a rolling ball superseded the blockhole to be pitched into. In that case, the club having given way to the bandy or crooked bat of the last century, the game, which first was named from the club "Club-ball," might afterwards

have been named from the bandy or crooked stick "Cricket."

Add to which, the game might have been played in two ways—sometimes more in the form of Club-ball, sometimes more like Cricket; and the following remarkable passage proves that a term very similar to Cricket was applied to some game as far back as the thirteenth century, the identical date to which we have traced that form of Cricket called club-ball and the game of handyn and handoute.

From the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. lviii. p. 1, A.D. 1788, we extract the following:—

"In the wardrobe account of the 28th year of King Edward I., A.D. 1300, published in 1787 by the Society of Antiquaries, among the entries of money paid one Mr. John Leek, his chaplain, for the use of that King's son, Prince Edward, in playing at different games, is the following:—

"'Domino Johanni de Leek, capellano Domini Edwardi fil' ad *Creag'* et alios ludos per vices, per manus proprias, 100s. Apud Westm. 10 die Aprilis, 1305.'"

The writer observes, that the glossaries have been searched in vain for any other name of a pastime but Cricket to which the term "Creag" can apply.

"Creag" and Cricket, therefore, being presumed identical, the cricketers of Warwick and of Gloucester may be reminded that they are playing the same game as was played by the

dauntless enemy of Robert Bruce, afterwards the prisoner at Kenilworth, and eventually the victim of Mortimer's ruffians in the dark tragedy of Berkeley Castle.

Dean Swift mentions Cricket, and that in the year 1712, as one of the favourite sports of the country; for, in his pamphlet of "John Bull," Swift writes thus:—

"John Bull began to pursue his own interests through all impediments thrown in his way. He left off some of his old acquaintance, put on a serious air, knit his brows, and for the time had made a very considerable progress in politics, considering that he had been kept a stranger to his own affairs. However, he could not help discovering some remains of his nature when he happened to meet with a foot-ball or a *match at Cricket.*"

In the year 1748 there was an action brought in the Court of King's Bench, to recover two bets of twenty-five pounds each, laid on a match of Cricket, played by the County of Kent against All England. The question raised was, whether Cricket was a game within the meaning of the words of the statute, "or any other game or games whatever," by the 9th of Anne. The Court held "that Cricket was a game, and a very manly game too, not bad in itself, but only in the ill use made of it by betting more than ten pounds on it; but that was bad and against the law."

In 1751, says Sir Nathaniel Wraxall—

"Frederick, Prince of Wales, son of George II., expired suddenly in 1751, at Leicester House, in the arms of Desnoyers, the celebrated dancing-master. His end was caused by an internal abscess that had long been forming in consequence of a blow which he received in the side from a cricket-ball while he was engaged in playing at that game on the lawn at Cliefden House, in Buckinghamshire, where he then principally resided. Death did not take place, however, till several months after the accident, when a collection of matter burst and instantly suffocated him."

To advert to a former observation, that Cricket was originally confined to the lower orders, Robert Southey notes, Commonplace Book, iv. 201, that Cricket was not deemed a game for gentlemen in the middle of the last century. Tracing this allusion to the *Connoisseur*, No. 132, dated 1756, we are introduced to one Mr. Toby Bumper, whose vulgarities are "drinking purl in the morning, eating black-puddings at Bartholomew Fair, boxing with Buckhorse," and also that "he is frequently engaged at the Artillery Ground with Faukner and Dingate *at Cricket*, and is esteemed as good a bat as either of the Bennets." Dingate will be mentioned as an All-England player in our third chapter.

And here we must observe that at the very date that a cricket-ground was thought as low as a modern skittle-alley, we read that even—

"Some dukes at Mary'bone *bowled* time away."

"Lord Chatham and Lord Temple," writes

Samuel Rogers, "were on a visit to Lord Grenville in 1767, at Wotton, Bucks. 'We dined at three o'clock,' said his son, 'and at half-past four sallied out to Ninepin Alley; where Lord Chatham and Lord Temple played for an hour and a half, each taking one of us for his partner. The ladies sat by looking on and drinking their coffee; and in our walk home we stopped to regale ourselves with a syllabub under the cow.'"

Our game in later times, we know, has constituted the pastime and discipline of many an English soldier. Our barracks are now provided with cricket-grounds; every regiment and every man-of-war has its club; and our soldiers and sailors astonish the natives of every clime both inland and maritime, with a specimen of a British game; and it deserves to be better known, for it was at a cricket-match that "some of our officers were amusing themselves on the 12th of June, 1815," says Captain Gordon, "in company with that devoted cricketer, the Duke of Richmond, when the Duke of Wellington arrived, and shortly after came the Prince of Orange, which of course put a stop to our game. Though the hero of the Peninsula was not apt to let his movements be known, on this occasion he made no secret that, if he were attacked from the south, Halle would

be his position, and if on the Namur side, WATERLOO."

An elegant allusion to Cricket was made by George Canning, in metaphor, of which he was pre-eminently master — not, however, when Minister of England, but while Canning the Etonian, directing, with power prophetic of his future destiny, the boyish literature of his school :—

"In like manner as the human mind is everywhere strongly analogous to the natural system, a cricketer will, in poring over the pages of Horace, lose the trophies which await him as hero of the Hampshire and bulwark of the White Conduit, and exchange the invigorating commendations of a Small, Stock, White, or Lumpy, for the dull drudgery of blundering through ten years of scholastic labour. The poet will be equally circumstanced in the field: no innate consciousness of knowledge can console him for the ridicule of an unforeseen trip—no muse of Parnassus secure his wicket—no Minerva, however serviceable she might have formerly been on similar occasions, avert an all-levelling ball from the aim of his Bœotian adversaries."

One who reads with all the curiosity and interest of a cricketer will pick up little notices which, when put together, throw light on the early history of the game, and show its spread and how early it had taken root in the land; for instance :—

1. In Smith's life of Nollekens the painter we read that Alderman Boydell, the etcher and printseller, had many shops, but the best was the

sign of The Cricket Bat in Duke's Court, St. Martin's Lane. This was in 1750.

2. In one of the caricatures of 1770, in Mr. Wright's collection, Lord Sandwich is represented with a bat in his hand, in allusion to his fondness for cricket; but it is a curved piece of wood, more like a modern golf. A bat also is placed satirically in the hand of a cricket-loving lady in a print of 1778—"Miss Wicket" with her friend "Miss Trigger"—fast ladies both, no doubt.

3. William Goldwin, an old King's man in 1706, published in *Musæ Juveniles* a poem called *Certamen Pilæ*, or "The Cricket Match."

4. "A ram and bat, 9*d.*," is one of the ten extras (so they always had extras) in an Eton-boy's school-bill in 1688.

Last, not least, we must call attention to "Cricket" in an heroic poem by James Love, comedian, 1770:—

"Kent challenges all the other Counties; the Counties go in first; and the exciting crisis of the match is thus described—

"To end th' immortal honours of the day,
The chiefs of Kent once more their might essay:
No trifling toil ev'n yet remains untried,
Nor mean the numbers of the adverse side.
With double skill each dangerous ball they shun,
Strike with observing eye, with caution run.

At length they know the wished-for number near,
Yet wildly pant and almost know they fear:
The two last champions even now are in,
And but three notches now remain to win,
When, almost ready to recant its boast,
Ambitious Kent within an ace had lost:
The mounting ball, again obliquely driven,
Cuts the pure ether, soaring up to Heaven!
Wallock was ready—Wallock, all must own,
As sure a swain to catch as e'er was known;
But—whether Jove and all-compelling Fate
In their high will resolved that Kent should beat,
Or the lamented youth too much relied
On sure success and Fortune often tried—
The erring ball, amazing to be told,
Slipped through his outstretched hand and mocked his hold!
And, now, the sons of Kent complete the game,
And firmly fix their everlasting fame!"

CHAPTER II.

THE GENERAL CHARACTER OF CRICKET.

THE game of Cricket, philosophically considered, is a standing panegyric on the English character: none but an orderly and sensible race of people would so amuse themselves. It calls into requisition all the cardinal virtues, some moralist would say. As with the Grecian games of old, the cricketer must be sober and temperate. Patience, fortitude, and self-denial, the various bumps of order, obedience, and good-humour, with an unruffled temper, are indispensable.

For intellectual virtues we want judgment, decision, and the organ of concentrativeness—every faculty in the free use of its limbs, and every idea in constant air and exercise. Poor rickety and stunted wits will never serve—the widest shoulders are of very little use without a head upon them: the cricketer wants wit down to his fingers' ends.

As to physical qualifications, we require not only

the volatile spirits of the Irishman *rampant*, and the phlegmatic caution of the Scotchman *couchant*, but we want the English combination of the two; though, with good generalship, Cricket is a game for Britons generally: the three nations would mix not better in a regiment than in an Eleven; especially if the Hibernian were trained in London, and taught to enjoy something better than what Father Prout terms his supreme felicity, "Otium cum dig-*gin*-ta*ties*."

It was from the southern and south-eastern counties of England that the game of Cricket spread—not a little owing to the Propaganda of the metropolitan clubs, which played chiefly first at the Artillery Ground, then at White Conduit Fields, and thirdly at Thomas Lord's Grounds (of which there were two before the present "Lord's"), as well as latterly at the Oval, Kennington, and on all sides of London—through all the southern half of England; and during these last twenty years even to the northern counties, which have monopolised a majority of the most distinguished professional cricketers.

But considering that the complement of the game is twenty-two men, besides umpires and scorers, and considering also that Cricket, unlike every other manly contest, by flood or field, occu-

pies commonly more than one day, the railways, as might be expected, have tended wonderfully to the diffusion of Cricket—giving rise to clubs depending on a circle of some thirty or forty miles, as also to that club in particular under the canonised saint, John Zingari, into whom are supposed to have migrated the erratic spirits of the gipsy tribe.

The Zingari are a race of ubiquitous cricketers, exclusively gentlemen players; for Cricket affords to a race of professionals a merry and abundant, though rather a laborious livelihood, from the time the first May-fly is up to the time the first pheasant is down.

Neither must we forget the All England, the United North or the South Elevens, who, under the generalship of Parr, Iddison, or of Lillywhite, play numbers varying from fourteen to twenty-two in every county in England. This tends to a healthy circulation of the life's blood of Cricket, vaccinating and inoculating every wondering rustic with the principles of the game.

Our soldiers, by order of the Horse Guards, are provided with cricket-grounds adjoining their barracks; and her Majesty's ships have bats and balls to astonish the cockroaches at sea, and the crabs and turtles ashore. Hence it has come to

pass that, wherever her Majesty's servants have "carried their victorious arms" and legs—wind and weather permitting—Cricket has been played.

Still the game is essentially Anglo-Saxon. Foreigners have rarely, very rarely imitated us. The English settlers and residents everywhere play at Cricket; but of no single club have we ever heard dieted either with frogs, sour-krout, or maccaroni. Cricket can hardly be said to be naturalised in Ireland. It follows the course rather of ale than whisky. Witness Kent, the land of hops; witness Farnham, which, with its adjoining parishes, nurtured the finest of the old players (*cunabula Trojæ*, the infant school of cricketers); witness also the Burton Clubs, assisted by our excellent friend next akin to bitter ale; witness Alton ale, on which old Beagley throve so well, and the Scotch ale of Edinburgh, on which John Sparkes, though commencing with the last generation, carried on his good instructions, in which we ourselves once rejoiced, into the middle of the present century.

The mountain mists and the "mountain dew" agree better with deer-stalking than with Cricket; our game disdains Dutch courage. The brain must glow with Nature's fire, and not depend upon a spirit-lamp. *Mens sana in corpore sano:* feed

the body, but do not cloud the mind. You, sir, with that hectic flush, the fire of your eyes burnt low in their sockets, with beak as sharp as a woodcock's from living upon suction, with pallid face and shaky hand—our game disdains such ghost-like votaries. Rise with the lark and scent the morning air, and drink from the bubbling rill; and then, with veins no longer fevered with alcohol, or puffed with tobacco smoke—when you have rectified your illicit spirits and clarified your unsettled judgment—"come again and devour up my discourse."

And you, sir, with the figure of Falstaff and the nose of Bardolph—not Christianly eating that you may live, but living that you may eat—one of the *nati consumere fruges*, the devouring caterpillar and grub of human kind—on whom outraged nature has taken vengeance, by emblazoning what was his face, encasing each limb in fat, and condemning him to be his own porter to the end of his days.

"Then I am your man—and I—and I—," cry a crowd of self-satisfied youths; "sound are we in wind and limb, and none have quicker hand or eye."—Gently, my friends; so far, well. Good hands and eyes are instruments indispensable, but only instruments. You may be big

enough and strong enough, but the question is whether, as Virgil says—

> "Spiritus intus alit, totamque infusa per artus
> Mens agitat molem, et magno se corpore miscet."

And in these lines Virgil truly describes the right sort of man for a cricketer: plenty of life in him; not barely soul enough, as Robert South said, to keep his body from putrefaction; but, however large his stature, though he weigh some eighteen stone, he must have *νοῦς* in proportion, and be instinct with sense all over.

Then says Virgil, *igneus est ollis vigor:* a cricketer must always have the steam up, otherwise the bard would have agreed with us, he is of no kind of good in an Eleven, because—

> "Noxia corpora tardant,
> Terrenique hebetant artus, moribundaque membra;"

that is, you must suspend the laws of gravitation before he can stir—a dull clod of the valley, and so many stone of carrion; and then that most manly and elegant of poets proceeds to describe what discipline will render those who suffer the penalties of idleness or intemperance fit to join the chosen *few* in the cricket-field:—

> "Exinde per amplum
> Mittimur Elysium et pauci læta arva tenemus."

Of course *Elysium* means "Lord's," and Etonians would construe *læta arva* "the playing fields." We make no apology for classical quotations. At the Universities, Cricket and Scholarship very generally go together. When, in 1836, we played—and played victoriously—excuse our weakness, for W. Broughton, C. Taylor, and F. Ponsonby played against us—on the side of Oxford against Cambridge, seven out of our eleven were classmen; and of men since, not unknown to fame, we remember C. Duke Yonge, Professor of History at Belfast; Rev. G. Rawlinson, ditto at Oxford; Rev. C. D. Ryle; Dr. Lee, Provost of Winchester; and the late Chief-Justice Giffard, though absent for the nonce.

From all this we argue that, on the authority of ancient and the experience of modern times, Cricket wants mind as well as matter, and, in each sense of the word, a good understanding. How is it that Clarke's slow bowling was so successful? Ask Parr or Wisden; or say Mr. V. Walker's bowling, or that of Tinley, or others not much indebted to pace. "You see, sir, they bowl with their heads." Then only is the game worthy the notice of full-grown man.

"A rubber of whist," says the author of the "Diary of a Late Physician," in his "Law

Studies," "calls into requisition all those powers of mind that a barrister most needs;" and nearly as much may be said of a scientific game of Cricket.

Certainly, there is something highly intellectual in our noble and national pastime. But the cricketer must possess not only physical and intellectual, but moral qualifications also. Of what avail is the head to plan and hand to execute, if a sulky temper paralyzes exertion, and throws a damp over the field; or if impatience dethrones judgment, and the man hits across at good balls, because loose balls are long in coming; or, again, if a contentious and imperious disposition leaves the cricketer all "alone in his glory," voted the pest of every Eleven?

The pest of the hunting-field is the man always thinking of his own horse and own riding, galloping against MEN and not after HOUNDS. The pest of the cricket-field is the man who bores you about his average — his wickets — his catches, and looks blue even at the success of his own party. If unsuccessful in batting or fielding, he gives up all—"the wretch concentred all in self." No! Give me the man who forgets himself in the game, and, missing a ball, does not stop to exculpate himself by dumb show, but rattles

away after it—who does not blame his partner when he is run out—who plays like play, and not like a painful operation. Such a chilly, bleak, north-west aspect some men do put on—it is absurd to say they are enjoying themselves.

We all know it is trying to be out first ball. Oh! that first look back at rattling stumps—"why, I couldn't have had right guard!"—that conviction that the ball turned, or but for some unaccountable suspension of the laws of motion, the earth perhaps coming to a hitch upon its ungreased axis, it had not happened! Then there's the spoiling of your average (though some begin again and reckon anew!), and a sad consciousness that every critic in the three tiers of the Pavilion is coolly speculating—

"Quis cuique dolor victo, quæ gloria palmæ,"

knows your mortification. Oh! that sad walk back, a "returned convict;" we must all pace it, "*calcanda semel via leti.*" A man is sure never to take his eyes off the ground, and if there's a bit of stick in the way he kicks it instinctively with the side of his shoe. Add, that cruel *post-mortem* examination into your case, and having to answer the old question, "How was it?" or perhaps forced to argue with some vexatious fellow

who imputes it to the very fault on which you are so sore and sensitive.

All this is trying; but since it is always happening, an unruffled temper is essential to the true cricketer, and bad temper makes bad play. Eleven good-tempered men, other points equal, would beat eleven sulky or eleven irritable gentlemen out of the field. The hurling of bats and angry ebullitions show inexperience in the game and its chances; as if any man in England could always catch, or stop, or score. This very uncertainty gives the game its interest. If Mr. Grace or Daft were sure of runs, who would care to play? But as they make sometimes five and sometimes a hundred, we still contend with flesh and blood. Even Achilles was vulnerable at the heel; or, mythologically, he could not stop a shooter to the leg stump. So never let the Satanic agency of the gaming-table brood on those "happy fields" where *strenua nos exercet inertia,* where there is an energy in our idle hours—not killing time but enjoying it. Look at good honest Joe Rowbotham: his "patient merit" never "goes out sighing," nor in, either—never in a mumbling, though a "melting mood." Perspiration may roll off him, like bubbles from a duck's back, but it's all down to the day's work. He looks, as

every cricketer should look, like a man out for a holiday, shut up in "measureless content." It is a pleasure to see such a man make a score. Add to all this, perseverance and self-denial, and a soul above vainglory and the applause of the vulgar. Ay, perseverance in well-doing—perseverance in a straightforward, upright, and consistent course of action. See that player practising apart from the rest. What an unpretending style of play! A hundred pounds appear to depend on every ball—not a hit for these five minutes—see! he has a shilling on his stumps, and his bowler is doing his best to knock it off. A question is asked after every ball, the bowler being constantly invited to remind him of the least inaccuracy in hitting or danger in defence. The other players are hitting all over the field, making every one (but a good judge) marvel. Our friend's reward is that in the first good match, when some supposed brilliant Mr. Dashwood has been stumped from leg-ball—(he cannot make his fine hits in his ground)—bowled by a shooter, or caught at Point, then our persevering friend—ball after ball dropping harmless from his bat, till ever and anon a single or a double are safely played away—has two figures appended to his name; and he is greeted in the Pavilion as

having turned the chances of the game in favour of his side.

Conceit in a cricketer, as in other things, is a bar to all improvement—the vainglorious is always thinking of the lookers-on instead of the game, and generally is condemned to live on the reputation of some twenty runs off three or four overs (his merriest life is a short one) for half a season.

There is no game in which amiability and an unruffled temper are so essential to success, or in which virtue is rewarded half as much as in the game of Cricket. Could a cricketer play a solo, he might play in humour or out of humour; but an Eleven is of the nature of those commonwealths of which Cicero said that, without some regard to the cardinal virtues, they could not possibly hold together.

Dr. Parr on a Sunday evening used to sit on the Green at Halton (Warwick) with his pipe and his jug to see the parish lads play at Cricket, no one being allowed to play who had not been at church; the public-houses were deserted, and a better behaved parish than the doctor's was rarely seen in those days.

These were the ideas of Baron Alderson, who took the opportunity of expressing his delight to

the Grand Jury of the County of Huntingdon. He had seen all classes blended in a village Cricket-match—the high-born, the wealthy, and the peasant. Well might that keen observer of mankind proclaim that "in such meetings was to be found the best protection for the property of the landlord, and the best assurance of kindly feelings between all grades. While such unions elevated the noble, they imparted self-respect to the lower orders, who rose in their own estimation by the occasional association of the great in the common sports of their common country."

"We remember," said Mr. Bolland, "this excellent judge himself engaging in a Cricket-match, and also that he made a capital catch. His hands on that occasion were as active as his mind, which is capable of *grasping* the greatest difficulties. We remember, also, another occasion upon which a brother Baron of the Exchequer, whom all have now to mourn, stood umpire for a time in a match, and with his wonted decision he gave his own clerk out. The match was between an eleven connected with the Circuit against a North Welsh county during the assizes. Having little business to transact, we indulged in Cricket; the Bench, the Bar, Grand Jurymen, and

officials all took a part, and were equally delighted with the holiday."

Such a national game as Cricket will both humanise and harmonize our people. The cricketer is a member of a wide fraternity: if he is the best man in his club, and that club is the best club in the country, he may aspire to represent some large and powerful constituency at Lord's. How spirit-stirring are the gatherings of rival counties, when all the country is thronging to its battle-field studded with flags and tents! The very sight makes the heart beat for the fortune of the day; and, for miles around, the old coachman waves his whip above his head with an air of infinite importance if he can only be the herald of the joyous tidings, "We've won the day!"

Games of some kind men must have, and it is no small praise of Cricket that it occupies the place of less innocent sports. Drinking, gambling, and cudgel-playing, insensibly disappear before a manly recreation, which draws the labourer from the dark haunts of vice and misery to the open common, where

> "The squire or parson o' the parish,
> Or the attorney"

may raise him, without lowering themselves, by taking an interest, if not a part, in his sports.

Pugilists have rarely been cricket-players, at least, none were ever good enough to be known at Lord's. "We used to see the fighting men," said Beldham, "playing skittles about the ground, but there were no players among them." Ned O'Neal was a good player, as also was Cannon; and Bendigo had friends confident enough to make a p.p. match between him and George Parr for £50. When the day came, Bendigo appeared with a lame leg, and Parr's friends set an example worthy of all true cricketers; they scorned to play a lame man, or to profit by their neighbours' misfortunes.

Nature designed us to sport and play at Cricket, as truly as to eat and drink. Observe the pale dyspeptic student ruminating on his logic, algebra, or political economy, while describing his periodical revolutions around his college garden or on Constitution Hill: then turn aside and gladden your eyes and ears with the buoyant spirits and exulting energies of Bullingdon or Lord's. See how Nature rebels against "an airing," or a milestone-measured walk. While following up a covey, or the windings of a trout-stream, we cross field after field unconscious of fatigue, and retain so pleasing a recollection of the toil, that, years after, amidst

the din and hum of men, we brighten at the thought, and yearn as did the poet nearly two thousand years ago, with the words

> "O rus, quando te aspiciam, quandoque licebit
> Ducere sollicitæ jucunda oblivia vitæ?"

Yes, field-sports, in their proper season, are Nature's kind provision to smooth the frown from the brow, to allay "life's fitful fever," to

> "Raze out the written troubles of the brain,
> And by some sweet oblivious antidote
> Cleanse the stuffed bosom of that perilous stuff
> Which weighs upon the heart."

And words are these, not a whit too strong for those who live laborious days, in this high-pressure generation. And who does not feel his daily burthen lightened, while enjoying the joyous spirits and good-fellowship of the cricket-field, those sunny hours *pratorum viva voluptas* when "the valleys laugh and sing," and, between the greensward beneath and the blue sky above, you hear a hum of happy myriads enjoying their brief span too!

How generous and social is our enjoyment! In the cricket-field, as by the cover's side, the sport is in the free and open air and light of heaven. No incongruity of tastes nor rude col-

lision interferes. No one minds that another, "how unmannerly" soever, should "pass betwixt the wind and his nobility." One common interest makes common feeling, fusing heart with heart, thawing the frostwork of etiquette, and strengthening those silken ties which bind man to man.

Society has its ranks and classes. Distinctions are there, not artificial but natural even as the very strata of the earth itself. Lines there are, nicely graduated, ordained to separate the tropics of nobility and affluence from the temperate zones of a comfortable independence, and the Arctic circles of poverty; these lines are nowhere less marked, because nowhere less wanted, than in the cricket-field. There we can waive for awhile the precedence of birth—

> "Contented with the rank that merit gives."

And many an humble spirit, from this temporary preferment, carries the same honest emulation into his daily duties.

The cricket-field suggests a new version of the words,

> "Æqua tellus
> Pauperi recluditur
> Regumque pueris."

"A fair stage and no favour." Kerseymere dis-

dains not corduroys, nor fine clothes fustian. The cottager stumps out his landlord; scholars dare to beat their masters; and sons catch out those fathers who so often *catch out* them. William Beldham was many hours in the day "as good a man" as even Lord Frederick Beauclerk; and the gallant Duke of Richmond would descend from his high estate to contest the palm of manly prowess with his humblest tenantry, so far acknowledging with Robert Burns,

> "The rank is but the guinea stamp,
> The man's the gowd for a' that."

Cricket lies within the reach of average powers. It is no monopoly for a gifted few, nor is the cricketer soon superannuated. Cricket affords scope for a great diversity of talent.

There have been good batsmen and the best of fields among near-sighted men, and hard-hitters among weak and crippled men. As to weight and stature, nine stone has proved not too little for a first-rate, nor eighteen stone too much. W. Clarke and W. Lillywhite were both All-England men when past fifty years of age.

Cricket is a game available to poor as well as rich; it has no privileged class. Unlike shooting, hunting, or yachting, there is no leave to ask, licence to buy, nor costly establishment to sup-

port. With the poorer classes it originated, played "after hours" on village greens, and thence transplanted to patrician lawns.

Cricket is not solely a game of skill—chance has sway enough to leave the vanquished an *if* and a *but*. A long innings bespeaks good play; but "out the first ball" is no disgrace.

In one of the famous B. Matches, in 1810, the B.'s scored, second innings, only 6; and four were made at one hit by J. Wells, a man given; in the first innings they had scored 137. E. H. Budd was "*absent;*" still the Bentleys, Bennett, Beldham, and Lord Frederick Beauclerk were among the ten who had an innings.

On the Surrey ground, 1851, had not an easy catch been missed, the Eleven of All England would have gone out for a run apiece.

An innings without one run was played in Lord Winterton's park in 1856; Challen bowled. The same side that scored 0 first, scored 100 second innings.

The next smallest score on record is that of the Paltiswick Club, when playing against Bury in 1824: their first innings was only 4 runs! Pilch bowled out eight of them. In their next innings they scored 46; Bury, first innings, 101.

A game, to be really a game, really playful,

should admit of chance as well as skill. It is the bane of Chess that its character is too severe—to lose a game is to lose your character; and most painful of all, to be outwitted in a fair and undeniable contest of long-headedness, tact, manœuvring, and common sense—qualities in which no man likes to come off second-best.

But did we say that ladies, famed as ladies have been in the hunting-field, know anything of Cricket too? Not often; though I could mention one or two—notably Mrs. Grace, the mother of the three celebrated cricketers of that name, and the wife and also daughter of the late William Ward, who could tell you the forte and the failing of every player with the greatest discrimination.

Female cricketers Robert Southey deemed worthy of notice in his Commonplace Book. A match, he says, was played at Bury between the Matrons and the Maids of the parish. The Matrons vindicated their superiority, and challenged any eleven petticoats in the county of Suffolk. A similar match, it is noted, was played at West Tarring in 1850. Southey also was much amused at five legs being broken in one match—but only wooden legs—of Greenwich pensioners.

Eleven females of Surrey were backed against eleven females of Hampshire, says Pierce Egan, at Newington, Oct. 2, 1811, by two noblemen, for 500 guineas a-side. Hants won. And a similar match was played in strict order and decorum on Havant Level, Sussex, before 3,000 spectators.

Cricket, we said, is a game chiefly of skill, but partly of chance. Skill avails enough for interest, and not too much friendly feeling. No game is played in better humour—never lost till won—the game's alive till the last ball. For the most part, there is so little to ruffle the temper, or to cause unpleasant collision, that there is no place so free from temptation—no such happy plains or lands of innocence—as our cricket-fields. We give bail for our good behaviour from the moment that we enter them. A cricket-field is a sphere of wholesome discipline in obedience and good order, not to mention that manly spirit which faces danger without shrinking, and bears disappointment with good-nature. Disappointment! and say where is there more poignant disappointment while it lasts, than, after all your practice for a match, and anxious thought and resolution to avoid every chance, and score off every possible ball, to be baulked and run out, caught at the slip, or stumped even off a shooter.

Old Robinson, one of the finest batsmen of his day, had six unlucky innings in succession; once caught by Hammond, from a draw; then bowled with shooters, or picked up at short slip. The poor fellow said he had lost all his play, thinking "the fault is in ourselves, and not our stars;" and was with difficulty persuaded to play one match more, in which—whose heart does not rejoice to hear?—he made one hundred and thirty runs!

"But, as to stirring excitement," writes a friend, "what can surpass a hardly-contested match, when you have been manfully playing an up-hill game, and gradually the figures on the telegraph keep telling a better and a better tale, till at last the scorers stand up and proclaim a tie, and you win the game by a single and rather a nervous wicket, or by five or ten runs! If in the field with a match of this sort, and trying hard to prevent these few runs being knocked off by the last wickets, I know of no excitement so intense for the time, or which lasts so long afterwards. The recollection of these critical moments will make the heart jump for years and years to come; and it is extraordinary to see the delight with which men call up these grand moments to memory; and, to be sure, how they will talk and

chatter, their eyes glistening and pulses getting quicker, as if they were again finishing 'that rattling good match.'" People talk of the excitement of a good run with the Quorn or Belvoir hunt. I have now and then tumbled in for these good things; and, as far as my own feelings go, I can safely say that the afterthoughts of a fine run are not to be compared to those of a good match, and the excitement of the keenest sportsman is nothing either in intensity or duration to that caused by a "near thing" at Cricket. This is my decided opinion, after watching and weighing the subject for some years. I have seen men tremble and turn pale at a near match—

> "Quum spes arrectæ juvenum exultantiaque haurit
> Corda pavor pulsans"—

while, through the field, the deepest and most awful silence reigns, unbroken but by some nervous fieldsman humming a tune or snapping his fingers to hide his agitation.

"What a glorious sensation it is," writes Miss Mitford, in "Our Village," "to be winning, winning, winning! Who would think that a little bit of leather and two pieces of wood had such a delightful and delighting power?"

CHAPTER III.

THE HAMBLEDON CLUB AND THE OLD PLAYERS.

WHAT have become of the old scores and the earliest records of the game of Cricket? "Bentley's Book of Matches" gives the principal games from the year 1786; but where are the earlier records of matches made by Dehaney, Paulet, and Sir Horace Mann? All burnt!

What the destruction of Rome and its records by the Gauls was to Niebuhr, what the fire of London was to the antiquary in his walk from Pudding Lane to Pie Corner, such was the burning of the Pavilion at Lord's, and all the old score books—it is a mercy that the old painting of the M. C. C. was saved—to the annalist of Cricket. "When we were built out by Dorset Square," says Mr. E. H. Budd, "we played for three years where the Regent's Canal has since been cut, and still we call our ground 'Lord's,' and our dining-room 'the Pavilion.' Here many a time have I

looked over the old papers of Dehaney and Sir H. Mann; but the room was burnt, and the old scores perished in the flames." The following are curious as the two oldest scores preserved—one of the North, the other of the South :—

NAMES OF THE PERSONS WHO PLAYED AGAINST SHEFFIELD.

In 1771 at NOTTINGHAM, and 1772 at SHEFFIELD.

Nottingham, Aug. 26, 1771.

Huthwayte
Turner
Loughman
Coleman
Roe
Spurs
Stocks
Collishaw
Troop
Mew
Rawson

Sheffield.		*Nottingham.*	
1st inn.	81	1st inn.	76
2nd	62	2nd	112
3rd	105		
	248		188

Tuesday, 9 o'clock A. M., commenced, 8th man 0, 9th, 5, 1 to come in, and only 60 ahead when the *Sheffield* left the field.

Sheffield, June 1, 1772.

Coleman
Turner
Loughman
Roe
Spurs
Stocks
Collishaw
Troop
Mew
Bamford
Gladwin

Nottingham.		*Sheffield.*	
1st inn.	14	1st inn.	70

Nottingham gave in.

KENT AGAINST ALL ENGLAND.

Played in the Artillery Ground, London, 1746.

ENGLAND.

1st Innings.	RUNS.		*2nd Innings.*	RUNS.	
Harris	0 b	by	Hadswell	4 b	by Mills
Dingate	3 b		ditto	11 b	Hadswell
Newland	0 b		Mills	3 b	ditto
Cuddy	0 b		Hadswell	2 b	Danes
Green	0 b		Mills	5 b	Mills
Waymark	7 b		ditto	9 b	Hadswell
Bryan	12 s		Kips	7 c	Kips
Newland	18 —		not out	15 c	Ld. J. Sackville
Harris	0 b		Hadswell	1 b	Hadswell
Smith	0 c		Bartrum	8 b	Mills
Newland	0 b		Mills	5 —	not out
Byes	0		Byes	0	
	40			70	

KENT.

1st Innings.	RUNS.		*2nd Innings*	RUNS.	
Lord Sackville	5 c	by	Waymark	3 b	by Harris
Long Robin	7 b		Newland	9 b	Newland
Mills	0 b		Harris	6 c	ditto
Hadswell	0 b		ditto	5 —	not out
Cutbush	3 c		Green	7 —	not out
Bartrum	2 b		Newland	0 b	Newland
Danes	6 b		ditto	0 c	Smith
Sawyer	0 c		Waymark	5 b	Newland
Kips	12 b		Harris	10 b	Harris
Mills	7 —		not out	2 b	Newland
Romney	11 b		Harris	8 c	Harris
Byes	0		Byes	3	
	53			58	

How early was Cricket played at Eton?

Early in the eighteenth century. Horace Walpole was sent to Eton in the year 1728. Playing Cricket, as well as thrashing bargemen, was common even at that time. For in "Walpole's Letters," May 6th, 1736—two years after leaving Eton—we read:—

"I can't say I am sorry I was never quite a schoolboy; an expedition against bargemen, or a match at Cricket, may be very pretty things to recollect; but, thank my stars, I can remember things that are very near as pretty."

The fourth Earl of Carlisle learnt Cricket at Eton at the same time. The earl writes to George Selwyn, even from Mannheim, that he was up playing at Cricket before Selwyn was out of his bed.

How early was Cricket played at Winchester?

Before the middle of the seventeenth century. For "Bishop Ken used to wield a cricket-bat at Winchester College." So says Lisle Bowles, as quoted in Timbs's "School-Days of Eminent Men." Now Ken was born in 1637, and found Cricket a game at Winchester in 1650. This is the earliest notice of the game yet discovered, unless, indeed, Bowles only spoke typically of English games, and did not mean to commit himself to Cricket in particular.

Horace Walpole mentions a fact that seems to prove that the custom of drawing an Eleven from distant parts of the country was known more than a hundred years ago; for, writing in June, 1749, he says, "I could tell you of Lord Montford's making Cricket-matches, and fetching up parsons by express from different parts of England to play on Richmond Green."

We extract, also, the following from "Horace Walpole's Correspondence:"—

"The Chevenixes had tricked it out (his house) for themselves. Up two pair of stairs is what they call Mr. Chevenix's library, furnished with three maps, one shelf, a bust of Sir Isaac Newton, and a lame telescope without any glasses. Lord John Sackville predecessed here, and instituted certain games called *cricketalia*, which have been celebrated this very evening in honour of him in a neighbouring meadow."

And now, the oldest chronicler is Old Nyren, who wrote an account of the cricketers of his time. The said Old Nyren borrowed the pen of our kind friend Charles Cowden Clarke, to whom John Keats dedicated an epistle, and who rejoiced in the friendship of Charles Lamb; and none but a spirit akin to Elia could have written like "Old Nyren." Nyren was a fine English yeoman, whose chivalry was Cricket; and Mr. Clarke has faithfully recorded Nyren's vivid descriptions and animated recollections. And, with this charming

little volume in hand, and inkhorn at my button, in 1837, I made a tour among the cottages of William Beldham, and the few surviving worthies of the same generation; and having also the advantage of a MS. by the Rev. John Mitford, gleaned from many a winter's evening with Old Fennex, I am happy to attempt the best account that the lapse of time allows, of Cricket in the olden time.

From a MS. my friend received from the late Mr. William Ward, it appears that the wickets were placed twenty-two yards apart as long since as the year 1700; that stumps were then only one foot high, but two feet wide. The width some persons have doubted; but it is rendered credible by the auxiliary evidence that there was, in those days, width enough between the two stumps for cutting the wide blockhole already mentioned, and also because, whereas now we hear of stumps and bails, we read formerly of "two stumps with one stump laid across."

We are informed, also, that putting down the wickets to make a man out in running, instead of the old custom of popping the ball into the hole, was adopted on account of severe injuries to the hands, and that the wicket was changed at the same time—1702—to the dimensions

of twenty-two inches by six, with a third stump added.

Before this alteration, the art of defence was almost unknown; balls not only often passed over the wicket, but often passed through. At the time of the alteration, Old Nyren truly predicted that the innings would not be shortened but better played. The long pod and curved form of the bat, as seen in the old paintings, was made only for hitting, and for ground balls too. Length balls were then by no means common; neither would low stumps encourage them; and even upright play was then practised by very few.

Old Nyren relates that one Harry Hall, a gingerbread baker of Farnham, gave peripatetic lectures to young players, and always insisted on keeping the left elbow well up; in other words, on straight play. "Nowadays," said Beldham, "all the world knows that: but when I began there was very little length bowling, very little straight play, and little defence either." Fennex said he was the first who played forward at balls; before his day, batting was too much about the crease. Beldham said that his own supposed tempting of Providence consisted in running in to hit. "'You do frighten me there jumping out of your ground,'

said our Squire Paulet." Fennex used also to relate how, when he played forward to the pitch of the ball, his father "had never seen the like in all his days:" the said days extended a long way back towards the beginning of the century.

While speaking of going in to hit, Beldham said, "My opinion has always been that too little is attempted in that direction. Judge your ball, and, when the least overpitched, go in and hit her away." In this opinion, Mr. C. Taylor's practice would have borne Beldham out; and a fine dashing game this makes, only it is a game for none but practised players. When you are perfect in playing in your ground, then, and then only, try how you can play out of it, as the best means to scatter the enemy and open the field; because no man is a first-rate batsman who cannot play with his legs as well as his arms.

"As to bowling," continued Beldham, "when I was a boy (about 1780) nearly all bowling was fast, and all along the ground. In those days the Hambledon Club could beat All England; but our three parishes around Farnham at last beat Hambledon."

It was quite evident that Farnham was the cradle of cricketers. "Surrey," in the old scores, means nothing more than the Farnham parishes.

This corner of Surrey, in every match against All England, was reckoned as part of Hampshire; and Beldham truly said, "you find us regularly on the Hampshire side in Bentley's Book."

Hampshire was clearly the first county to study Cricket as a science. "We Hampshire lads can bowl a bit or thereabouts," are the words of the Farmer in the comedy of *Speed the Plough.*

"I told you, sir," said Beldham, "that in my early days all bowling was what we called fast, or at least a moderate pace. The first lobbing slow bowler I ever saw was Tom Walker. When, in 1792, England played Kent, I did feel so ashamed of such baby bowling; but, after all, he did more than even David Harris himself. Two years after, in 1794, at Dartford Brent, Tom Walker, with his slow bowling, headed a side against David Harris, and beat him easily.

"Kent, in early times, was not equal to our counties. Their great man was Crawte, and he was taken away from our parish of Alresford by Mr. Amherst, the gentleman who made the Kent matches. In those days, except around our parts, Farnham and the Surrey side of Hampshire, a little play went a long way. Why, no man used to be more talked of than Yalden; and when Yalden came among us, we soon made up our

minds what the rest of them must be. If you want to know, sir, the time the Hambledon Club was formed, I can tell you by this:—when we beat them in 1780, I heard Mr. Paulet say, 'Here have I been thirty years raising our Club, and are we to be beaten by a mere parish?' so there must have been a cricket club, that played every week regularly, as long ago as 1750. We used to go as eagerly to a match as if it were two armies fighting: we stood at nothing if masters allowed the time. From our parish to Hambledon is twenty-seven miles, and we used to ride both ways the same day, early and late. At last, I and John Wells were about building a cart: you have heard of tax carts, sir; well, the tax was put on then, and that stopped us. The members of the Hambledon Club had a caravan to take their Eleven about: they used once to play always in velvet caps. They are so drawn in an old painting. Lord Winchelsea's Eleven used to play in silver-laced hats; and the fashionable dress was knee-breeches and stockings. We never thought of knocks; and, remember, I played against Browne of Brighton too. Certainly, you would see a bump heave under the stocking, and even the blood come through; but I never knew a man killed, now you ask the question, and I never saw any accident of

much consequence, in my long experience, though many an *all but*. Just think of the old fashion, sir, before cricket shoes, when I saw John Wells tear a finger-nail off against his shoe-buckle in picking up a ball!

"Your book, sir, says much about Old Nyren. This Nyren was fifty years old when I began to play: he was our general in the Hambledon matches; but not half a player, as we reckon now. He had a small farm and inn near Hambledon, and took care of the ground.

"I remember when many things first came into the game which are common now. The law for leg-before-wicket was not passed, nor much wanted, till one of our best hitters was shabby enough to put his leg in the way, and take advantage of the bowlers; and when Tom Taylor, another first-rate hitter, did the same, the bowlers found themselves beaten, and the law was passed to make leg-before-wicket Out. The law against jerking was owing to the frightful pace Tom Walker put on, and I believe that he afterwards tried something more like the modern throwing-bowling, and so caused the words against throwing also. Willes was not the inventor of that kind of round bowling; he only revived what was forgotten or new to the young folk.

"In early times, the umpires did not pitch the wickets. David Harris used to think a great deal of pitching himself a good wicket, and took much pains in suiting himself every match-day."

"Lord Stowel was fond of Cricket. He employed me to make a ground for him at Holt Pound."

In the last century, when the waggon and the packhorse supplied the place of the penny train, there was little opportunity for those frequent meetings of men from distant counties that now puzzle us to remember who is North and who is South, who is a Surrey or who a Kent man. The matches then were truly county matches, and had more of the spirit of hostile tribes and rival clans. "There was no mistaking the Kent boys," said Beldham, "when they came staring into the Green Man. A few of us had grown used to London, but Kent and Hampshire men had but to speak, or even show themselves, and you need not ask them which side they were on. So the match seemed like Sir Horace Mann and Lord Winchelsea and their respective tenantry—for when will the feudal system be quite extinct?—and there was no little pride and honour in the parishes that sent them up, and many a flagon of ale depending in the farms or the hop-grounds

they severally represented, as to whether they should, as the spirit-stirring saying was, 'prove themselves the better men.'"

"I remember one match," said Beldham, "when Ring was playing against David Harris, and the game was much against him, Sir Horace Mann was cutting about with his stick among the daisies, and cheering every run—you would have thought his whole fortune (and he would often bet some hundreds) was staked upon the game—and, as a new man was going in, he went across to Ring, and said, 'Ring, carry your bat through and make up all the runs, and I'll give you £10 a year for life.' Well, Ring was out for sixty runs, and only three to tie, and four to beat, and the last man made them. It was Sir Horace who took Aylward away with him out of Hampshire; but the best bat made but a poor bailiff, we heard.

"Cricket was played in Sussex very early, before my day at least; but, that there was no good play I know by this, that Richard Newland of Slindon, in Sussex, as you say, sir, taught old Richard Nyren, and that no Sussex man could be found to play Newland. Now, a second-rate man of our parish beat Newland easily; so you may judge what the rest of Sussex then were. But before 1780 there were some good players

about Hambledon and the Surrey side of Hampshire. Crawte, the best of the Kent men, was stolen away from us; so you will not be wrong, sir, in writing down that Farnham, and thirty miles round, reared all the best players up to my day, about 1780.

"There were some who were then called 'the Old Players'"—and here Fennex's account quite agreed with Beldham's—"including Frame and Old Small. And as to Old Small it is worthy of observation, that Bennet declared it was part of the creed of the last century that Small was the man who 'found out Cricket,' or brought play to any degree of perfection. Of the same school was Sueter, the wicket-keeper, who in those days had very little stumping to do, and Minshull and Colshorn, all mentioned in Nyren. These men played puddling about their crease, and had no freedom. I like to see a player upright and well forward, to face the ball like a man. The Duke of Dorset made a match at Dartford Brent between 'the Old Players and the New.'—You laugh, sir," said this tottering, silver-haired old man, "but we all were new once;—well, I played with the Walkers, John Wells, and the rest of our men, and beat the Old ones very easily."

Old John Small died, the last, if not the first

of the Hambletonians, in 1826. Isaac Walton, the Father of Anglers, lived to the age of ninety-three. John Small, the Patriarch of Cricketers, attained to his ninetieth year. His was truly a green old age, for he played in all the great matches till he was turned of seventy. He was a fine skater and a good musician. But, how the Duke of Dorset took great interest in John Small, and how his grace gave him a fiddle, and how John, like a modern Orpheus, beguiled a wild bull of its fury, in the middle of a paddock, is it not written in the book of the chronicles of the playmates of Old Nyren? In a match of Hambledon against All England, Small kept up his wicket for three days, and was not out after all. A pity his score is not preserved. We should like to compare it with Mr. Ward's.

William Beldham died in 1863, aged ninety-eight, at a village near Farnham.

"Tom Walker was the most tedious fellow to bowl to, and the slowest runner between wickets I ever saw. Harry was the hitter—Harry's half-hour was as good as Tom's afternoon. I have seen Noah Mann, who was as fast as Tom was slow, overtake Tom in running a four, pat him on the back and say, 'Good name for you is *Walker*, for you never were a runner.'

"It was said that David Harris once bowled Tom 170 balls for one run! David was a potter by trade, and in a kind of skittle-alley formed between hurdles, he used to practise by bowling four different balls from one end, and then picking them up he would bowl them back again. His bowling cost him a great deal of practice; but it proved well worth his while, for no man ever bowled like David, and he was always first chosen of all the men in England."—*Nil sine labore*, remember, young cricketers all.—"'Lambert' (not the great player of that name), said Nyren, 'had a most deceitful and teasing way of delivering the ball: he tumbled out the Kent and Surrey men, one after another, as if picked off by a rifle corps. His perfection is accounted for by the circumstance that when he was tending his father's sheep he would set up a hurdle or two, and bowl away for hours together.'"

"There was some good hitting in those days, though too little defence. Tom Taylor would cut away in fine style, almost after the manner of Mr. Budd.—Old Small was among the first members of the Hambledon Club. He began to play about 1750, and Lumpy Stevens at the same time. I can give you some notion, sir, of what Cricket was in these times, for Lumpy, a very

bad bat, as he was well aware, once said to me, 'Beldham, what do you think Cricket must have been in those days when I was thought a good batsman?' But fielding was very good as far back as I remember.

"Now, what Beldham called good fielding must have been good enough. He was himself admirable at a catch. Mr. Budd, when past forty, was still one of the quickest men I ever played with, taking always middle wicket, and often, by swift running, doing part of long-field's work. Sparks, Fennex, Bennett, Young Small, and Mr. Parry, were all first-rate, not to mention Beagley, whose style of long-stopping, in the North and South Match of 1836, made Lord Frederick and Mr. Ward justly proud of so good a representative of the game of their younger days. Albeit an old player of seventy, describing the merits of all these men, said, 'Put Mr. King at point, Mr. C. Ridding long-stop, and Mr. W. Pickering cover, and I never saw man who could beat either of them.'

"John Wells was a most dangerous man in a single-wicket match, being so dead a shot at a wicket. In one celebrated match, Lord Frederick warned the Honourable H. Tufton to beware of John; but John Wells found an opportunity of

maintaining his character by shying down, from the side, little more than the single stump. Tom Sheridan joined some of our matches, but he was no good but to make people laugh. In our days there were no padded gloves. I have seen Tom Walker rub his bleeding fingers in the dust! David used to say he liked to *rind* him.

"The matches against twenty-two were not uncommon in the last century. In 1788 the Hambledon Club played two-and-twenty at Cold Ash Hill. 'Drawing' between leg and wicket is not a new invention. Old Small (b. 1737, d. 1826) was famous for the draw, and, to increase his facility, he changed the crooked bat of his day for a straight bat. There was some fine cutting before Saunders' day. Harry Walker was the first, I believe, who brought cutting to perfection. The next genuine cutter—for they were very scarce (I never called mine cutting, not like that of Saunders at least)—was Robinson. Walker and Robinson would wait for the ball till all but past the wicket, and then cut with great force. Others made good off-hits, but did not hit late enough for a good cut. I would never cut with slow bowling. I believe that Walker, Fennex, and myself first opened the Old Players' eyes to what could be done with the bat; Walker by cutting,

and Fennex and I by forward play: but all improvement was owing to David Harris's bowling. His bowling rose almost perpendicular: it was once pronounced a jerk; it was altogether most extraordinary.—For thirteen years I averaged forty-three a match, though frequently I had only one innings; but I never could half play unless runs were really wanted."

The following letter, by Thomas Smith, Esq., of Fir Hill, Droxford, Bishop's Waltham, in Hampshire, is a most important addition to the early history of the game, and seems to prove that the famous Hambledon Club was formed even much earlier than stated by William Beldham:—

"Hambledon, in Hampshire, claims to have been the first in establishing the manly game of Cricket, and also for establishing the first Cricket Club in the kingdom, which, according to the date in the old books of the Club, was at the beginning of the eighteenth century. By which, it appears the game was originally played with only *one* stump, 18 in. high, to which the Club added one more stump and a bail; but as it was found that the ball often passed between the stumps without moving the bail, another stump was added, making three [this took place in or about 1775]; and the bats used at that time were more like Hercules' clubs than like those of the present day, being wide at the bottom and tapering to the handle; a relic of which was carefully preserved, and was hung up over the dining-table in the Club-house on Windmill Down until the year 1819, when a member of the Club, *after* dinner, by way of frolic, took it down, and insisted on having one hit with it, and before he could be prevented he rashly proceeded to do so; the

consequence was, it fell all to pieces, being quite rotten and worm-eaten, causing great dismay and annoyance to all. Had this happened fifty years before, this might have been accounted for, as the following short entry in the Club-book will show: 'A wet day, only three members present, nine bottles of wine.' It was made a rule for the Club to pay the landlord for a certain number of dinners, whether present or not. This Club contained on its list of members at one time all the principal players of the kingdom, amongst whom were many titles of distinction; and up to the nineteenth century all the gentlemen in the neighbourhood belonged to it; amongst them were some great patrons of the game—Messrs. Bonham, Cole, King, Poulter, Hale, &c. Since that, the Club was kept up with great spirit, including the names of Messrs. W. Ward, Gage, Shakespeare, Delme, Butler, Smith, Dampier, Brownlow, Poulter, Lushington, Higgins, Morris, Hale, Worsley, Richards, Forster, &c. Amongst the players we find Old John Small, Lumpy (the best slow bowler of the day); since then, Brown, the fastest bowler then known, Beagley, Carter, Bowyer, Garrat, &c., some of whom were paid 10*s.* per day by the Club as bowlers. The Club was very well kept up until about the year 1825, when many members left the neighbourhood; the old Club-house having fallen into decay, the Down (Windmill) also was shortly after broken up; but hopes exist (1857) that it may again be established on a new ground, lately offered by a descendant of a good old patron of this noble game, Mr. Forster."

The *true* old Hambledon Club (which used to play All England) broke up about 1791, though according to the above account it existed in some form till 1825.

Windmill Down is situate close to Hambledon, on the west side of the village, on the hill which overlooks the place. Broad-halfpenny Down, the old ground of the Club, is situated about two miles to the North of Hambledon. In

1857, when visited by the author of these pages, they had both been turned into ploughed fields.

The following is the heading of the earliest copy of the laws of Cricket that can be found at the present time :—

THE LAWS OF CRICKET.

REVISED AT THE STAR AND GARTER, PALL MALL, February 25, 1774, by a Committee of Noblemen and Gentlemen of Kent, Hampshire, Surrey, Sussex, Middlesex, and London.

COMMITTEE.

In the Chair—Sir William Draper. *Present*—His Grace the Duke of Dorset, Right Honourable Earl Tankeville, Sir Horace Mann, Philip Dehany, John Brewer Davis, Harry Peckham, Francis Vincent, John Cooke, Charles Coles, Richard James, Esquires, Rev. Charles Pawlet.

CHAPTER IV.

CRICKET GENERALLY ESTABLISHED AS A NATIONAL GAME BY THE END OF THE LAST CENTURY.

LITTLE is recorded of the Hambledon Club after the year 1786. Its glory departed when Old Nyren left it, in 1791; though, in this last year, the true old Hambledon Eleven all but beat Twenty-two of Middlesex, at Lord's. Their cricket-ground on Broad-halfpenny Down, in Hampshire, was so far removed from the many noblemen and gentlemen who had seen and admired the severe bowling of David Harris, the brilliant hitting of Beldham, and the interminable defence of the Walkers, that these worthies soon found a more genial sphere for their energies on the grounds of Kent, Surrey, and Middlesex. Still, though the land was deserted, the men survived, and imparted a knowledge of their craft to gentles and simples far and near.

Most gladly would we chronicle that these good men and true were actuated by a great and

a patriotic spirit, to diffuse an aid to civilisation —for such our game claims to be—among their wonder-stricken fellow-countrymen; but, in truth, we confess that "reaping golden opinions" and coins, "from all kinds of men," as well as that indescribable tumult and those joyous emotions which attend the ball vigorously propelled or heroically stopped, while hundreds of voices shout applause,—that such stirring motives, more powerful far with vain-glorious man than any "dissolving views" of abstract virtue, tended to the migration of the pride of Hambledon. Still, doubtful though the motive, certain is the fact, that the old Hambledon players did carry their bats and stumps out of Hampshire into the adjoining counties, and gradually, like all great commanders, taught their adversaries to conquer too. In some instances, as with Lord Winchelsea, Mr. Amherst, and others, noblemen combined the *utile dulci* pleasure and business, and retained a great player as a keeper or a bailiff, as Martingell once was engaged by Earl Ducie. In other instances, the play of the summer led to employment through the winter; or else, these busy bees lived on the sweets of their sunshine toil, enjoying *otium cum dignitate*—that is, living like gentlemen, with nothing to do.

This accounts for our finding these Hampshire men playing Kent matches; being, like a learned lord in *Punch's* picture, "naturalised everywhere," or "citizens of the world."

Let us trace these Hambledonians in all their contests, from the date mentioned (1786 to 1800), the eventful period of the French Revolution and Nelson's victories; and let us see how the Bank stopping payment, the mutiny of the fleet, and the threatened invasion, put together, did not prevent balls from flying over the tented field in a far more innocent and rational way on this than on the other side of the Channel.

Now, what were the matches in the last century—"Eleven Gentlemen against the Twelve Cæsars?" No! these, though ancient names, are of modern times. Kent against England was as good an annual match in the last as in the present century. The White Conduit Fields and the Artillery Ground supplied the place of Lord's, though in 1787 the name of Lord's is found in Bentley's matches; implying, of course, the old Marylebone Ground, now Dorset Square, under Thomas Lord, and not the present in St. John's Wood, more properly deserving the name of Dark's than Lord's.

The Artillery Ground was the oldest metro-

politan ground on record. Matches on that ground were advertised in the *Daily Advertiser*. The following sounds quite modern, copied from that paper in 1754:—

"Artillery Ground, London.—On Monday next will be played a Cricket-match of five a side: Faulkner and the two Harrises, John Frame, and Darling, against John Mansfield, John Bell, John Bryant, little Bennett, and William King, for a guinea a man. The wickets to be pitched at twelve o'clock. The match to be played out."

The propriety of the game from its mixed character, as also from the gambling it involved, certainly was a matter of discussion about this time; because, in the *British Champion* in 1743, a correspondent writes, among other observations:—

"I have been led into these reflections by some odd stories I have lately heard of Cricket-matches, to which, but for eye-witnesses, I never could have yielded any belief. Is it not a very wild thing to be as serious in making such a match as in the most material occurrences in life?"

Then at this date Cricket-matches did excite the warmest interest, undoubtedly:—

"Would it not be extremely odd to see lords and gentlemen, clergymen and lawyers, associating themselves with butchers and cobblers in pursuit of their diversions?"

The writer then complains of the game being made, just as at Lord's now, "the subject of public

advertisement, to draw together great crowds of people who ought all of them to be somewhere else."

The Artillery Ground is near Finsbury Square, but in the middle of the last century (1754) an All England Match was played in the White Conduit Fields. This White Conduit Club consisted of Lord Winchelsea, Sir H. Mann, and all the leading patrons of the game. The exact date of the formation of that Club cannot be ascertained; but it was in the year 1787 that the Marylebone Club was formed of its members, and used to meet early in each season at the Star and Garter, in Pall Mall, to discuss the laws of the game over their wine—which laws grew up gradually, with almost as many alterations and additions as there were years, during the last part of the last century. The gradual growth of the constitution of these laws is told in "Cricketana."

One of the attendants on the White Conduit Club was Thomas Lord, a Scotchman, said to have fled to London because, from his Jacobite predilections, his native land had proved unpleasant. Lord, very like a Scotchman, perceiving a demand for Cricket accommodation, set up a supply; and, being promised support, in the year 1787 took a piece of ground where now stands Dorset

Square, which ground soon went by the name of "Lord's."

Thus the White Conduit Club became the nucleus of another, under the name of the M.C.C.

From the site of Dorset Square, Thomas Lord afterwards removed, not only himself and bats and balls, but, strange to say, the very turf on which those balls had rolled, to a second field, still called Lord's, at South Bank, near the Regent's Park. From South Bank, driven by the cutting of the canal, he next removed the same turf once more to the land so long in possession of Mr. Dark, which is the veritable "Lord's Cricket Ground" of the present day.

Thomas Lord had many ups and downs in life. Lord and his ancestors were Roman Catholics, and had all their property confiscated, from taking part in the rebellion of 1745; so that Lord's father had to work as a labourer on the very farm which once belonged to him. Thomas Lord was at first a mere bowler on the ground of White Conduit Fields, then the proprietor of Lord's, also a wine-merchant, residing in a house looking on to "Lord's." He died only a few years ago, aged seventy-four, at Westmeon, in Hampshire, where he retired in his old age.

The Kentish battle-fields were Sevenoaks—the land of Clout, one of the original makers of cricket-balls; Coxheath, Dandelion Fields, in the Isle of Thanet, and Cobham Park; also Dartford Brent and Penenden Heath; there is also early mention of Gravesend, Rochester, and Woolwich.

Next in importance to the Kent matches were those of Hampshire and of Surrey, with each of which counties indifferently the Hambledon men used to play. For it must not be supposed that the whole county of Surrey put forth a crop of stumps and wickets all at once: we have already said that malt and hops and cricket have ever gone together.

Two parishes in Surrey, adjoining Hants, won the original laurels for their county—parishes in the immediate vicinity of the Farnham hop-country. The Holt, near Farnham and Moulsey Hurst, were the Surrey grounds. The match might truly have been called "Farnham's hop-gatherers *v.* those of Kent." The former was aided sometimes by men who drank the ale of Alton, just as Burton-on-Trent, life-sustainer to our Indian Empire, sends forth its giants, refreshed with bitter ale, to defend the honour of the neighbouring towns and counties.

The men of Hampshire, after Broad-halfpenny was abandoned to docks and thistles, pitched their tents generally either upon Windmill Downs or upon Stoke Downs; and once they played a match against T. Assheton Smith, whose mantle has descended on a worthy representative, whether on the level turf or by the cover-side. Albeit, when that gentleman has a "meet"—*had* I must say, now this oldest of Lord Frederick's playfellows has passed away—at Hambledon, he must unconsciously have avoided the spot where "titch and turn"—the Hampshire cry—did once exhilarate the famous James Aylward, among others, as he astonished the Farnham waggoner, by continuing one and the same innings as the man drove up on the Tuesday afternoon and down on the Wednesday morning! This match was played at Andover, and the surnames of most of the Eleven may be read on the tombstones (with the best of characters) in Andover Churchyard. Bourne Paddock, Earl Darnley's Estate, and Burley Park, in Rutlandshire, constituted often the debatable ground in their respective counties. Earl Darnley, as well as Sir Horace Mann and the Earl of Winchelsea, Mr. Paulet and Mr. East, lent their names and patronage to Elevens: sometimes in the places mentioned, sometimes at

Lord's, and sometimes at Perriam Downs, near Luggershal, in Wiltshire.

Middlesex also, exclusive of the Marylebone Club, had its eleven in these days; or, we should say, its *twenty-two*, for that was the number then required to stand the disciplined forces of Hampshire, Kent, or England. And this reminds us of an "Uxbridge Ground," where Middlesex played and lost; also of "Hornchurch, Essex," where Essex, in 1791, was sufficiently advanced to win against Marylebone—an occasion memorable, because Lord Frederick Beauclerk there played nearly his first recorded match, making scarce any runs, but bowling four wickets. Lord Frederick's first match was at Lord's, 2nd June, 1791. "There was also," writes the Hon. R. Grimston, "the 'Bowling Green,' at Harrow-on-the-Hill, where the school played: Richardson, who subsequently became Mr. Justice Richardson, was the captain of the School Eleven in 1782."

Already, in 1790, the game was spreading northwards, or, rather, proofs exist that it had long before struck far and wide its roots and branches in northern latitudes; and also that it was a game as popular with the men of labour as the men of leisure, and therefore incontestably of home growth: no mere exotic, or importation of

the favoured few, can Cricket be, if, like its namesake, it is found a "household word" with those whom Burns aptly calls "the many-aproned sons of mechanical life."

In 1791, Eton, that is, the Old Etonians, played Marylebone, four players given on either side; and all true Etonians will thank us for informing them, not only that the seven Etonians were more than a match for their adversaries, but also that this match proves that Eton had, at that early date, the honour of sending forth the most distinguished amateurs of the day; for Lord Winchelsea, Hon. H. Fitzroy, Earl Darnley, Hon. E. Bligh, C. Anguish, Tom Assheton Smith —good men and true—were Etonians all. This match was played in Burley Park, Rutlandshire. On the following day, June 25, 1791, the Marylebone played eleven yeomen and artisans of Leicester; and though the Leicestrians cut a sorry figure, still the fact that the Midland Counties practised Cricket sixty years ago is worth recording.

Peter Heward, of Leicester, a famous wicket-keeper, of past day, told me of a trial-match in which he saw his father, quite an old man, with another veteran of his own standing, quickly put out, with the old-fashioned slow bowling, a really

good Eleven for some twenty runs—good, that is, against the modern style of bowling; and Cricket was not a new game in this old man's early days (say 1780) about Leicester and Nottingham, as the score in page 45 alone would prove; for such a game as Cricket, evidently of gradual development, must have been played in some primitive form many a long year before the date of 1775, in which it had excited sufficient interest, and was itself sufficiently matured in form, to show the two Elevens of Sheffield and of Nottingham.

Add to this what we have already mentioned, a rude form of Cricket as far north as Angus and Lothian in 1700, and we can hardly doubt that Cricket was known as early in the Midland as in the Southern Counties. The men of Nottingham —land of Clarke, Barker, and Redgate—next month, in the same year (1791), threw down the gauntlet, and shared the same fate; and next day the Marylebone, "adding," in a cricketing sense, "insult unto injury," played twenty-two of them, and won by thirteen runs.

In 1790, the shopocracy of Brighton had also an Eleven; and Sussex and Surrey, in 1792, sent an Eleven against England to Lord's, who scored in one innings 453 runs, the largest score on

record, save that of Epsom in 1815—476 in one innings! "M.C.C. *v.* Twenty-two of Nottingham," we now find an annual match; and also "M.C.C. *v.* Brighton," which becomes at once worthy of the fame that Sussex long has borne.

In 1793, the old Westminster men all but beat the old Etonians; and Essex and Herts, too near not to emulate the fame of Kent and Surrey, were content, like second-rate performers, to have, though playing twenty-two, one benefit between them, in the shape of defeat in one innings from England. And here we are reminded by two old players, a Kent and an Essex man, that, being schoolboys in 1785, they can respectively testify that, both in Kent and in Essex, Cricket appeared to them more of a village game than they have ever seen it of late years: "There was a cricket-bat behind the door, or else up in the bacon-rack, in every cottage. We heard little of clubs, except around London; still the game was played, by many or by few, in every school and village green in Essex and in Kent, and the field placed much as when with the Sidmouth I played the Teignbridge Club in 1826. Mr. Whitehead was the great hitter of Kent; and Frame and Small were names as often mentioned as Pilch and Parr by our boys now." And now (1793)

the game had penetrated farther West; for eleven yeomen at Oldfield Bray, in Berkshire, had learned long enough to be able to defeat a good Eleven of the Marylebone Club.

In 1795 the Hon. Colonel Lennox—memorable for a duel with the Duke of York, fought on Wimbledon Common in 1789—headed Elevens against the Earl of Winchelsea, his friend and second on that occasion; and now first, the Marylebone Eleven beat sixteen Oxonians on Bullingdon Green.

The Earl of Winchelsea made some good scores in the best matches for several seasons; was a great supporter and admirer of the "noble game," and especially of the Hambledon Club. The *Hampshire Chronicle* of July 15, 1797, states that "The Earl of Winchelsea has made an improvement in the game of Cricket, by having four stumps instead of three, and the wickets two inches higher. The game is thus rendered shorter by easier bowling out." This "improvement," however, must have only been used in practice, as no record exists of a match with four stumps having ever come off, except in that between the Gentlemen and the Players, July 3, 1837, when the latter defended four stumps of monstrous size.

The Earl of Winchelsea was born in 1752, and

died at his house, 32, South Street, Park Lane, in 1826, aged seventy-three. He was educated at Eton.

The Hon. Colonel Charles Lennox was a good and successful batsman, and an excellent wicket-keeper. From first to last his name will be found in good matches for about twenty-two seasons, but he did not play regularly every year. "He was a great lover and patron of athletic sports; indeed for a foot-race, or a standing or running jump, his agility and great speed were very conspicuous, few men being able to compete with him, and to the last hour of his life his good spirits never deserted him." He was born in 1764, and died in Canada (being governor-general of that province), 1819, aged fifty-four, having in 1806 become Duke of Richmond. His end was a melancholy one. It was caused by hydrophobia, arising from a bite in the face, by a tame fox, about five weeks previously. He died in great agony; and he was buried in the ramparts before Quebec—at least just before he expired he expressed a wish to that effect, which it is presumed was carried out.

In 1797, the Montpelier Club and Ground attract our notice. The name of this club is one of the most ancient, and their ground a short

distance only from the ground of Hall of Camberwell.

Swaffham, in Norfolk, is now mentioned for the first time. But Norfolk lies out of the usual road, and is a county which, as Mr. Dickens said of Golden Square before it was the residence of Cardinal Wiseman, "is nobody's way to or from any place." So, in those slow-coach and pack-horse days, the patrons of Kent, Surrey, Hants, and Marylebone, who alone gave to a game, which else were "airy nothing, a local habitation and a name," could not so easily extend their circuit to the land of turkeys, lithotomy, and dumplings. But it happened once that Lord Frederick Beauclerk was heard to say his Eleven should beat any three Elevens in the County of Norfolk; whence arose a challenge from the Norfolk men, whom, sure enough, his Lordship did beat, and that in one innings; and a print, though not on pocket-handkerchiefs, was struck off to perpetuate this honourable achievement.

Lord F. Beauclerk was now one of the best players of his time; as also were the Hons. H. and A. Tufton. They frequently headed a division of the Marylebone, or some county club, against Middlesex, and sometimes Hampstead and Highgate. Lord Frederick was the best bowler of his

day at Cambridge, but was not at first distinguished as a batsman. The story is that the Earl of Winchelsea, seeing him bowl at Cambridge, brought him forward at Lord's.

Lord Frederick Beauclerk is the greatest name in Cricket. He was a frequent attendant at Lord's, either as a player or a looker-on, for nearly sixty years. A vivid description of his lordship, as the very picture of life, activity, and spirits, has more than once crossed our mind as a sorry contrast, when at his declining days he appeared at Lord's only in his brougham, and always, as it seemed, with a lady-nurse at his side—looking a striking illustration of the strong man becoming weakness at the last.

Lord F. Beauclerk, at the age of fifty-four, scored 78 in one innings against Ashby, then the best bowler of his day.

In this year (1798) the Gentlemen made the first attempt at a match between the Gentlemen and the Players: though the Gentlemen had no pretensions for playing such a match. When we mention that the Gentlemen had three Players given—T. Walker, Beldham, and Hammond—certainly it was like playing England, "the part of England being left out." Even with such odds the Players won.

Kent attacked England in 1798, but, being beaten in about *half* an innings, we find the Kentish men in 1800, though still hankering after the same cosmopolitan distinction, modestly accepting the odds of nineteen, and afterwards twenty-three, men to twelve.

The chief patronage, and consequently the chief practice, in Cricket was beyond all comparison in London. There the play was nearly all professional: even the gentlemen made a profession of it; and therefore, though Cricket was far more extensively spread throughout the villages of Kent than of Middlesex, the clubs of the metropolis figure in the score-books as defying all competition. Professional players, we may observe, have always a decided advantage in respect of judicious choice and mustering their best men. The best Eleven on the side of the Players is almost always known, and can be mustered on a given day. Favour, friendship, and etiquette interfere but little with their election; but the Eleven Gentlemen of England are less easy to muster—

> "Linquenda *Parish* et domus et placens
> Uxor"—

and they are never anything more than the best eleven known to the party who make the match.

Besides, by the time an amateur is at his best, he has duties which bid him retire.

Having now traced the rise and progress of the game, from the time of its general establishment to the time that Beldham had shown us the full powers of the bat, and Lord Frederick had (as Fennex always declared) formed his style upon Beldham's; and since now we approach the era of a new school, and the forward play of Fennex, —which his father termed an innovation and presumption "contrary to all experience,"—till the same forward play was proved effectual by Lambert, and Hammond had shown that, in spite of wicket-keepers, bowling, if uniformly slow, might be met and hit away at the pitch;—now, we will wait to characterise, in the words of eye-witnesses, the heroes of the contests already mentioned.

On "the Old Players" I may be brief; because the few old gentlemen (with one of whom I am in daily communication) who have heard even the names of the Walkers, Frame, Small, and David Harris, are passing away, full of years, and almost all the written history of the Old Players consists in undiscriminating scores.

In point of style the Old Players did not play the steady game, with maiden overs, as at present.

The defensive was comparatively unknown: both the bat and the wicket, and the style of bowling too, were all adapted to a short life and a merry one. The wooden substitute for a ball, as a Cat and Dog, before described, evidently implied a hitting and not a stopping game.

The Wicket—as we collect from a MS. furnished by an old friend to the late William Ward, Esq.—was, in the early days of the Hambledon Club, one foot high and two feet wide, consisting of two stumps only, with one stump laid across. Thus, straight balls passed between, and what we now call well-pitched balls would of course rise over. Where, then, was the encouragement to block, when fortune would so often usurp the place of science? And as to the bat, look at the picture of Cricket as played in the old Artillery Ground; the bat is curved at the end like a hockey-stick, or the handle of a spoon, and—as common implements usually are adapted to the work to be performed—you will readily believe that in olden time the freest hitter was the best batsman. The bowling was all along the ground, hand and eye being everything, and judgment nothing; because the art originally was to bowl under the bat. The wicket was too low for rising balls; and the reason we

hear sometimes of the blockhole was, not that the blockhole originally denoted guard, but because between these two-feet-asunder stumps there was a hole cut big enough to contain the ball, and (as now with the schoolboy's game of Rounders) the hitter was made out in running a notch by the ball being popped into this hole (whence Popping-crease) before the point of the bat could reach it.

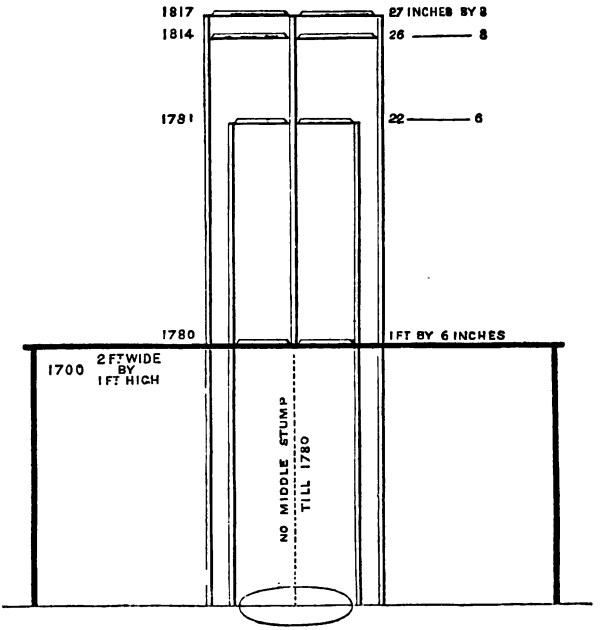
Did we say running a notch?—*unde* notch? What wonder ere the days of useful knowledge, and Sir William Curtis's toast of the "three R's," —or, Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rithmetic,—that natural science should be evolved in a truly natural way; what wonder that notches on a stick, like the notches in the milk-woman's tally in Hogarth's picture, should supply the place of those complicated papers of vertical columns, which subject the bowling, the batting, and the fielding to a process severely and scrupulously just, of analytical observation or differential calculus! Where now the scorers sit boxed up with every business-like appliance for a correct and trusty record of the game, with large tin telegraphic letters above their heads; and where now the printing-press seems to hand down every hit as soon as made on twopenny cards to future

generations; there, or in a similar position, old Frame, or young Small (young once: he died in 1836, aged seventy), might have placed a sturdy yeoman to cut notches with his bread-and-bacon knife on an ashen stick. Oh! 'tis enough to make the Hambledon heroes sit upright in their graves with astonishment, to think that in the Gentlemen and Players' match, in 1850, the cricketers of old Sparkes' Ground, at Edinburgh, could actually know the score of the first innings in London before the second had commenced!

But when we say that the old players had little or nothing of the defensive, we speak of the play before 1780, when David Harris flourished; for William Beldham distinctly assured us that the art of bowling over the bat by "length balls" originated with the famous David; an assertion, we will venture to say, which requires a little, and only a little, qualification. Length-bowling, or three-quarter balls, to use a popular though exploded expression, was introduced in David's time, and by him first brought to perfection. And what rather confirms this statement is, that the early bowlers were very swift bowlers—such was not only David, but the famous Brett, of earlier date, and Frame of great renown: a more moderate pace resulted

from the new discovery of a well-pitched bail-ball.

The old players well understood the art of twisting, or bias-bowling. Lambert, "the little



farmer," says Nyren, "improved on the art, and puzzled the Kent men in a great match, by twisting the reverse of the usual way,—that is, from the off to leg-stump." Tom Walker tried what

Nyren calls the throwing-bowling, and defied all the players of the day to withstand this novelty; but, by a council of the Hambledon Club, this was forbidden, and Willes, a Kent man, had all the praise of inventing it some twenty years later. In a match of the Hambledon Club, in 1775, it was observed, at a critical point of the game, that the ball passed three times between Small's two stumps without knocking off the bail; and then, first, a third stump was added; and, seeing that the new style of balls which rise over the bat rose also over the wickets, then but one foot high, the wicket was altered to the dimensions of 22 inches by 6, at which measure it remained till about 1814, when it was increased to 26 inches by 8, and again to its present dimensions of 27 inches by 8 in 1817; when, as one inch was added to the stump, two inches were added to the width between the creases. The changes in the wicket are represented in the foregoing woodcut. The rules in five different editions, from the year 1798 to 1816, mention one variety of measure more—24 inches by 7. In the year 1700, the runner was made out, not by striking off the transverse stump—we can hardly call it a bail—but by popping the ball in the hole therein represented.

The *Hampshire Chronicle* of July 15, 1797,

states "that the Earl of Winchelsea has made an improvement in the game of Cricket, by having four stumps instead of three, and the wickets two inches higher. The game is thus shortened by easier bowling out."

If so, this did not last. We have no record of any match with four stumps till the famous "Barn-door match" or "Ward's Folly," when the Gentlemen played three stumps to the Players' four on July 3, 1837.

David Harris's bowling, Fennex used to say, introduced, or at least established and fixed, a steady and defensive style of batting. "I have seen," said Sparkes, "seventy or eighty runs in an innings, though not more than eight or nine made at Harris's end." "Harris," said an excellent judge, who well remembers him, "had nearly all the quickness of rise and the height of delivery which characterises overhand bowling, with far greater straightness and precision. The ball appeared to be forced out from under his arm with some unaccountable jerk, so that it was delivered breast-high. His precision exceeded anything I have ever seen, insomuch that Tom Walker declared that, on one occasion, where turf was thin and the colour of the soil readily appeared, one spot was positively uncovered by the

repeated pitching of David's balls in the same place." "This bowling," said Sparkes, "compelled you to make the best of your reach forward; for if a man let the ball pitch too near, and crowd upon him, he very rarely could prevent a mistake, from the height and rapidity with which the ball cut up from the ground."—This account agrees with the well-known description of Nyren. Harris's mode of delivering the ball was very singular. He would bring it from under his arm by a twist, and nearly as high as his armpit, and with this action push it, as it were from him. How it was that the balls acquired the velocity they did by this mode of delivery, I never could comprehend. His balls were very little beholden to the ground; it was but a touch and up again; and woe be to the man who did not get in to block them, for they had such a peculiar curl they would grind his fingers against the bat."

And Nyren agrees with my informants in ascribing great improvement in batting, and "particularly in stopping" (for the art of defence was not indispensable for a batsman in the ideas of one of the old players), to the bowling of David Harris. Nyren also bears testimony to our assertion, that forward play was little known to the

oldest players, and was called into requisition chiefly by the bowling of David Harris.

Obviously, with the primitive fashion of ground-bowling, called sneakers, forward play could have no place, and even well-pitched balls like those of Edward Stevens, *alias* Lumpy, of moderate pace, might be played with some effect, even behind the crease; but David Harris, with pace, pitch, and rapid rise combined, imperatively demanded a new invention, and such was forward play about 1800.

Old Fennex—who died, alas! in a Middlesex workhouse, aged eighty, in 1839—always declared that he first showed the way, and remained long without followers; and no small praise is due to the boldness and originality that set at nought the received maxims of his forefathers before he was born or thought of; daring to try things which, had they been ordinarily reasonable, would not, of course, have been ignored by Frame, by Purchase, nor by Small. The world wants such men as Fennex—men who will shake off the prejudices of birth, parentage, and education, and boldly declare that age has taught them wisdom; and that the policy of their predecessors, however expensively stereotyped, must be revised and corrected, and adapted to the demands of a more

inquiring generation. "My father," said Fennex, "asked me how I came by that new play, reaching out as no one ever saw before." The same style he lived to see practised, not elegantly, but with wonderful power and effect, by Lambert, "a most severe and resolute hitter;" and Fennex also boasted that he had a most proficient disciple in Fuller Pilch: though I suspect that, as "*poeta nascitur, non fit,*"—that is, that all great performers appear to have brought the secret of their excellence into the world along with them, and are not the mere puppets of which others pull the strings,—Fuller Pilch may think he rather coincided with, than learnt from, William Fennex.

Now, the David Harris aforesaid, who wrought quite a revolution in the game, changing Cricket from a backward and a slashing to a forward and defensive game, and claiming higher stumps to do justice to his skill—this David, whose bowling was many years in advance of his generation, having all the excellence of Lillywhite's high delivery, though free from all imputation of unfairness—this David rose early, and late took rest, and ate the bread of carefulness, before he attained such distinction as—in these days of railroads, Thames tunnels, and tubular gloves and

bridges—to deserve the notice of our pen. "For," said John Bennett, "you might have seen David practising at dinner-time and after hours, all the winter through;" and "many a Hampshire barn," said Beagley, "has been heard to resound with bats and balls as well as thrashing"—

> "Nil sine magno
> Vita labore dedit mortalibus."

And now we must mention the men who, at the end of the last century, were best known to fame.

Lord F. Beauclerk was formed on the style of Beldham, whom in brilliancy of hitting he nearly resembled. The Hon. H. Bligh and Hon. H. Tufton were of the same school. Sir Peter Burrell was also a good hitter. And these were the most distinguished gentlemen-players of the day. Earl Winchelsea was in every principal match, but rather for his patronage than his play; and the Hon. Colonel Lennox for the same reason. Mr. R. Whitehead was a Kent player of great celebrity. But Lord F. Beauclerk was the only gentleman in the last century who had any claim to play in an All England Eleven. He was also one of the fastest runners. Hammond was the great wicket-keeper; but then the bowling was slow: Sparkes said he saw Hammond catch out

Robinson by a draw between leg and wicket. Freemantle was the first long-stop. Ray was the finest field in England; and in those days, when the scores were long, fielding was even more consideration than at present. Of the professional players, Beldham, Hammond, Tom and Harry Walker, Freemantle, Robinson, Fennex, J. Wells, and J. Small were the first chosen after Harris had passed away; for Nyren says that even Lord Beauclerk could hardly have seen David Harris in his prime.

At this time there was a sufficient number of players to maintain the credit of the left-hands. On the 10th of May, 1790, the Left-handed beat the Right by thirty-nine runs. This match reveals that Harris and Aylward, and the three best Kent players, Brazier, Crawte, and Clifford,—Sueter, the first distinguished wicket-keeper,—H. Walker, and Freemantle, were all left-handed: so also was Noah Mann.

The above-mentioned players are quite sufficient to give some idea of the play of the last century. Sparkes is well known to the author of these pages as his quondam instructor. In batting, Sparkes differed not widely from the usual style of good players, save that he never played forward to any very great extent. Playing under

leg, according to the old fashion (we call it old-fashioned, though Pilch adopted it), served instead of the far more elegant and efficient "draw." Sparkes was also a fair bias bowler, but of no great pace, and not very difficult. I remember his saying that the old school of slow-bowling was beaten by Hammond setting the example of running in. "Hammond," he said, "on one occasion hit back a slow ball to Lord F. Beauclerk with such frightful force that it just skimmed his lordship's unguarded head, and he had scarcely nerve to bowl after." Of Fennex we can also speak from our friend the Rev. John Mitford. Fennex was a fair straight forward hitter, and once as good a single-wicket player as any in England. His attitude was easy; and he played elegantly, and hit well from the wrist. If his bowling was any specimen of that of his contemporaries they were by no means to be despised. His bowling was very swift and of high delivery, the ball cut and ground up with great quickness and precision. Fennex used to say that men of the present day had little idea of what the old underhand bowling really could effect; and, from the specimen which Fennex himself gave at sixty-five years of age, there was much reason in his assertion.

Of all the old players Fennex had ever seen (for some partiality for bygone days we must of course allow), none elicited his notes of admiration like Beldham. We cannot compare a man who played underhand with those who are formed on overhand bowling. Still, there is reason to believe what Mr. Ward and others have told us, that Beldham had that genius for Cricket, that wonderful eye, and that quickness of hand, which would have made him a great player in any age.

Beldham related to us in 1838—and that with no little nimbleness of hand and vivacity of eye, while he suited the action to the word with a bat of his own manufacture—how he had drawn forth the plaudits of Lord's as he hit round and helped on the bowling of Browne even faster than before, much to the confusion of the good men of Brighton, who thought that no one could stand against their champion, and Browne had boasted he would bowl Beldham off his legs.

This match of Hants against England in 1819 Fennex was fond of describing, and certainly it gives some idea of what Beldham could do. "Osbaldeston," said Mr. Ward, "with his tremendously fast bowling, was defying every one at

single wicket, and he and Lambert challenged Mr. E. H. Budd with three others. Just then I had seen Browne's swift bowling, and a hint from me settled the match. Browne was engaged, and Osbaldeston was beaten with his own weapons."

A match was now made to give Browne a trial, and "we were having a social glass," said Fennex, "and talking with Beldham of the match of the morrow at the Green Man, when Browne came in, and told Beldham, with as much sincerity as good humour, that he should soon send his stumps a-flying.—'Hold there,' said Beldham, fingering his bat; 'you will be good enough to allow me this bit of wood, won't you?'—'Certainly,' said Browne.—'Quite satisfied,' answered Beldham; 'so to-morrow you shall see.'"—"Seventy-two runs," said Fennex,—and the score-book attests his accuracy,—"was Beldham's first and only innings;" and Beagley also joined with Fennex, and assured us that he never saw a more complete triumph of a batsman over a bowler. Nearly every ball was cut or slipped away till Browne hardly dared to bowl within Beldham's reach. Beldham was at that time fifty-four years of age. Let any one only picture to himself one of our superannuated players thus

doing what he pleased with the fastest bowler ever known, and at his best day.

As to the age of cricketers in early days, the players had a long reign before they were superseded. For, in 1810, a match was played between the old and the young—the young being limited to the age of thirty-eight; whereas now you can hardly name an All England man as old as thirty-eight, so large is the choice of players.

We desire not to qualify the praises of Beldham: but when we hear that he was unrivalled in elegant and brilliant hitting, and had that wonderful versatility which cut indifferently, quick as lightning, all round him, we cannot help remarking, that such bowling as that of Freeman or McIntyre renders imperatively necessary a severe style of defence, and an attitude of cautious watchfulness which must render the batsman not quite such a picture for the artist as might be seen in the days of Beldham and Lord F. Beauclerk.

Browne and Osbaldeston were as fast as any bowlers on record. We remember hearing Mr. Budd say that the pace was much faster than Mr. Kirwan's: he also said that neither Browne nor Osbaldeston was faster than Mr. Marcon. Among distinguished bowlers, Mr. Haygarth relates that "little" Dench of Brighton, in stopping for

Browne, used to have a kind of sack stuffed with straw to protect himself: if so, we can attest that, in stopping to Mr. Marcon, our late very excellent friend John Marshall exhibited to us leggings, made to order, of prodigious thickness.

So far we have traced the progress of the game, and the degrees of proficiency attained to the beginning of the present century. To sum up the evidence—by the year 1800, Cricket had become the common pastime of the common people in Hampshire, Surrey, Sussex, and Kent, and had been introduced into the adjoining counties; and though we cannot trace its continuity beyond Rutlandshire and Burley Park, certainly it had been long familiar to the men of Leicester and Nottingham, as well as Sheffield. Fielding was already as good, and quite as much valued in a match, as it has been since; while Wicket-keeping had been ably executed by Sueter—for he could stump off Brett, whose pace Nyren, acquainted as he was with all the bowlers to the days of Lillywhite, called quite of the steam-engine power; albeit no wicket-keeper could compare with Pooley or Pinder, except trained amidst the difficulties of modern bowling. Bowlers already had attained by bias and quick delivery all the excellence of which the underhand delivery admits. Still, as

regards Batting, the very fact that the stumps remained six inches wide by twenty-two inches in height, undeniably proves that the secret of success with the bat was limited to comparatively a small number of players.

CHAPTER V.

FIRST TWENTY YEARS OF THE PRESENT CENTURY.

BEFORE this century was one year old, David Harris, Harry Walker, Purchase, Aylward, and Lumpy had left the stage; and John Small, instead of hitting bad balls whose stitches would not last a match, had learnt to make a commodity so good that Clout's and Duke's were mere toy-shop in comparison. Noah Mann was the Barker, or the umpire, of the day, and Harry Bentley also, when he did not play. Five years more saw nearly the last of Earl Winchelsea, Sir Horace Mann, Earl Darnley, and Lord Yarmouth; still, Surrey had a generous friend in Mr. Lawrell, Hants in Mr. T. Assheton Smith, and Kent in the Honourables H. and A. Tufton.

The Pavilion at Lord's, then and since 1787 on the site of Dorset Square, was attended by Lord Frederick Beauclerk (then a young man of four-and-twenty), the Honourables Colonel Bligh, Colonel Lennox, Frederick Byng, H. and A.

Tufton, and A. Upton. Also there were usually Messrs. R. Whitehead, G. Leycester, S. Vigne, and F. Ladbroke. These were the great promoters of the matches, and the first of the amateurs. Cricket was one of Lord Byron's favourite sports, and that in spite of his lame foot: witness the lines,—

> "Together join'd in Cricket's manly toil,
> Or shared the produce of the river's spoil."

Byron mentions in his letters that he played in the Eleven of Harrow against Eton in 1805. The identical score is given in Lillywhite's Public School Matches. "But it was a favourite game at Westminster much earlier. One might perhaps have seen the poet Cowper, Warren Hastings, and Elijah Impey all play Cricket together, at Westminster, and Vinney Bourns looking on."

The excellent William Wilberforce was fond of Cricket, and was laid up by a severe blow on the leg at Rothley, while playing with his sons; he says the doctor told him a little more would have broken the bone.

Cricket, we have shown, was originally classed among the games of the lower orders; so we find the yeoman infinitely superior to the gentleman even before Cricket had become by any means so much of a profession as it is now. Tom Walker,

Beldham, John Wells, Fennex, Hammond, Robinson, Lambert, Sparks, H. Bentley, Bennett, Freemantle, were the best professionals of the day, for it was seven or eight years later that Mr. E. H. Budd, and his unequal rival Mr. Brand, and his sporting friend Osbaldeston, as also that fine player, E. Parry, Esq., severally appeared; and later still that Mr. Ward, Howard, Beagley, Thumwood, Caldecourt, Slater, Flavel, Ashby, Searle, and Saunders, successively showed every resource of bias-bowling to shorten the scores, and of fine hitting to lengthen them.

By the end of these twenty years, all those distinguished players had taught a game in which the batting beat the bowling. "Cricket," said Mr. Ward, "unlike hunting, shooting, fishing, or even yachting, was a sport that lasted three days;" the wicket had been twice enlarged, once about 1814, and again in 1817; old Lord had tried his third, the present ground, the legs had taught the wisdom of playing rather for love than money; slow coaches had given way to fast, long whist to short; and ultimately Lambert, John Wells, Howard, and Powell handed over the ball to Broadbridge and Lillywhite.

Such is the scene, the characters, and the performance. "Matches in those days were more

numerously attended than now," said Mr. Ward. The old game was more attractive to spectators, because more busy, than the new. Tom Lord's flag was the well-known telegraph, that brought him in from three to four thousand sixpences at a match. John Goldham, the octogenarian inspector of Billingsgate, had seen the Duke of York and his adversary, the Honourable Colonel Lennox, in the same game, and had the honour of playing with both, and with the Prince Regent too, in the White Conduit Fields, on which spot Mr. Goldham built his present house; for George IV. was a great lover of the game, and caused the "Prince's Cricket Ground" to be formed at Brighton. The late Lord Barrymore, killed by the accidental discharge of a blunderbuss in his phaeton, was an enthusiastic cricketer.

The Duke of Richmond, when Colonel Lennox, a nobleman whose life and spirits and most generous nature made him beloved by all, exulted in Cricket as in all athletic sports. Then, as you drive through Russell Square, behold the statue of another patron, the noble-born and noble-minded Duke of Bedford; and in Dorset Square, the site of old Lord's ground, you may muse and fancy you see, where now is some "modest mansion," the identical mark called the "Duke's

strike," which long recorded a hit, 132 yards in the air, from the once-famous bat of Alexander, late Duke of Hamilton.

Great matches in those days, as in these, cost money. Six guineas if they won, and four if they lost, was the player's fee; or, five and three if they lived in town. So, as every match cost some seventy pounds, over the fireplace at Lord's you would see a Subscription List for Surrey against England, or for England against Kent, as the case might be, and find notice of each interesting match at Brookes's and other clubs.

This custom of advertising Cricket matches is of very ancient date. In the *British Champion* of Sept. 8, 1743, a writer complains that though "noblemen, gentlemen, and clergymen may divert themselves as they think fit," and though he "cannot dispute their privilege to make butchers, cobblers, or tinkers their companions," he very much doubts, "whether they have any right to invite *thousands of people* to be spectators of their agility." For, "it draws numbers of people from their employment, to the ruin of their families. It is a most notorious breach of the laws—the advertisements most imprudently reciting that great sums are laid." And in the year following (1774), as we read in the *London Magazine*,

Kent beat All England in the Artillery Ground, in the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cumberland, the Duke of Richmond, Admiral Vernon, and many other persons of distinction. How pleasing to reflect that those sunny holidays we enjoy at Lord's have been enjoyed by the people for more than a century past!

But what were the famous Cricket counties in these twenty years? The glory of Kent had for a while departed. Time was when Kent could challenge England man for man; but now, only with such odds as twenty-three to twelve! As to the diffusion of Cricket, it advanced but slowly then, compared with recent times; a small circle round London would still comprise all the finest players. It was not till 1820 that Norfolk, forgetting its three Elevens beaten by Lord Frederick, again played Marylebone; and though three gentlemen were given, and Fuller Pitch played—then a lad of seventeen years—Norfolk lost by 417 runs, including Mr. Ward's longest score on record—278. "But he was missed," said Mr. Budd, "the easiest possible catch before he had scored thirty." Never mind; it was a great achievement still; and Mr. Morse preserves, as a relic, the identical ball, and the bat which hit that ball about,—a

trusty friend, which served its owner fifty years! But it is sad to remember, as one of this world's commentaries on the text *sic transit*, that at Lord's in 1859, when some exciting match was being played, one of Mr. Ward's old friends being heard to remark to us, "Poor Ward is now about his last, dying of a diseased kidney—very painful!" some of the players of the day asked, "Ward—who's Ward?"

Yes, we have also a painful recollection of poor Thomas Beagley—one of the finest batsmen of Lord Frederick's day, and the very model for a long-stop—sitting neglected and alone under the lime-trees at Lord's, while the ground was resounding with just such cheers for others, in his day yet unborn, which once had been raised for him. At length, a benefit was attempted, in acknowledgment of his former services; but the weather rendered it of little worth to him, and time after time we saw him looking more threadbare and more pitiful, till at last a notice in *Bell* told us what Thomas Beagley had been, and what, alas! he *was*.

"Do you see that old man sitting there?" we said to one of the first of the amateurs; "that man is Thomas Beagley."

"Thomas *who?*" was the reply.

There was a day when men would as soon have asked, "Who is W. G. Grace?" or, "Who is Daft?"

Kennington Oval, perhaps, was then all docks and thistles, yet Surrey stood first of Cricket counties, and Mr. Lawrell (Robinson was his keeper; an awful man for poachers, six feet and an inch in height, sixteen stone in weight, and strong in proportion), most generous of supporters, was not slow to give orders for golden guineas on old Thomas Lord, when a Surrey man, by catch or innings, had elicited applause. Of the same high order were Sir J. Cope, of Bramshill Park, and Mr. Barnett, the banker, promoter of the B. matches; also the Hon. D. Kinnaird; and last, not least, Mr. W. Ward, who, by purchase of a lease, saved Lord's from building-ground; an act of generosity in which he imitated the good old Duke of Dorset, who, said Mr. Budd, "gave the ground called 'The Vine,' at Sevenoaks, by a deed of trust, for the use of cricketers for ever."

The good men of Surrey, in 1800, monopolised nearly all the play of England. At this time, Lord Frederick Beauclerk and Hammond were the only All England players who were not Surrey men.

Kent had then some civil contests—petty wars

of single clans—but no county match; and their great friend, R. Whitehead, Esq., depended on the M.C.C. for his finest games. Cricket had now become a profession—a science to the Gentlemen, and an art or handicraft to the Players; and Farnham found in London the best market for its Cricket, as for its hops. The best Kent play was displayed at Rochester, and yet more at Woolwich; but chiefly among our officers, whose bats were bought in London, not at Sevenoaks. These games reflected no such honour on the county as when the Earls of Thanet and of Darnley brought their own tenantry to Lord's or Dartford Brent, armed with the native willow-wood of Kent. So, the Honourables H. and A. Tufton were obliged to yield to altered times, and play two-and-twenty men, where their noble father, the Earl of Thanet, had won with his eleven. "Thirteen to twenty-three was the number we enjoyed," said Sparkes, "for with thirteen good men well placed, and the bowling good, we did not want their twenty-three. A third man On, and a forward point or a kind of middle wicket with slow bowling, and an extra slip with fast, made a very strong field: the Kent men were sometimes regularly pounded by our fielding."

In 1805 we find a curious match—the "twelve

best against twenty-three next best." Lord Frederick was the only amateur amongst the "best;" but Barton, one of the "next best" among the latter, scored 87; not out. Mr. Budd first appeared at Lord's, in 1802, as a boy; he reappeared in 1808, and was at once among the longest scores.

The Homerton Club also furnished an annual match; still, all within the sound of Bow-bells. "To forget Homerton," said Mr. Ward, "were to ignore Mr. Vigne, our wicket-keeper, though one of very moderate powers. Hammond was the best we ever had, and he played on till his sixtieth year; but Browne and Osbaldeston put all wicket-keeping to the rout. Hammond's great success was in the days of slow bowling. John Wells and Howard were our two best fast bowlers, though Powell was very true. Osbaldeston ruined his side with byes and slips—thirty-two byes in the B. match." Few men could hit him before wicket—whence the many single-wicket matches he played: but Mr. Ward put an end to his reign by bringing forward Browne of Brighton. Beagley said of Browne, as the Players said of Mr. Fellows, they had no objection to him when the ground was smooth.

The Homerton Club also boasted of Mr. Ladbroke, one of the great promoters of matches, as

well as the late Mr. Aislabie, always fond of the game, but all his life "too big to play,"—the remark by Lord Frederick of Mr. Ward, which, being repeated, did no little to develop the latent powers of that most efficient player.

The Montpelier Club, with men given, annually played Marylebone about this time.

Lord Frederick, in 1803, gave a little variety to the matches by leading against Marylebone ten men of Leicester and Nottingham, including the two Warsops. "T. Warsop," said Clarke, "was one of the best bowlers I ever knew." Clarke had also a high opinion of Lambert, from whom he says he learnt more of the game than from any other man.

Lambert's bowling was like Mr. Budd's, against which the author has often played; a high underhand delivery, slow, but rising high, very accurately pitched, and turning in from leg-stump. "About the year 1818, Lambert and I," said Mr. Budd, "attained to a kind of round-arm delivery (described as Clarke's), by which we rose decidedly superior to all the batsmen of the day. Mr. Ward could not play it, but he headed a party against us, and our new bowling was ignored." Tom Walker and Lord Frederick were of the tediously slow school—Lambert and Budd were several

degrees faster. Howard and John Wells were the fast underhand bowlers; Howard was nearly the pace of Jackson.

Lord Frederick was a very successful bowler, and inspired great confidence as a general; his bowling was at last beaten by men running in to him. Sparkes mentioned another player who brought very slow bowling to perfection, and was beaten in the same way. Beldham thought Mr. Budd's bowling better than Lord Frederick's; Beagley said the same.

His lordship is generally supposed to have been the best amateur of his day; so said Caldecourt—also Beagley, who observed that his lordship had the best head, and was most valuable as a general. Otherwise this is an assertion hard to reconcile with acknowledged facts; for, first, Mr. Budd made the best average, though usually opposed to Lambert's bowling, and playing almost exclusively in the great matches. Mr. Budd was a much more powerful hitter. Lord Frederick said, "Budd always wanted to win the game off a single ball:" Beldham observed, "If Mr. Budd would not hit so eagerly, he would be the finest player in all England." When we knew him, his hitting was quite safe play. Still, Lord Frederick's was the prettier style of batting, and he had the

character of being the most scientific player. But, since Mr. Budd had the largest average in spite of his hitting, Beldham becomes a witness in his favour. Mr. Budd measured five feet ten inches, and weighed twelve stone, very clean made and powerful, with an eye singularly keen, and great natural quickness, being one of the fastest runners of his day. Secondly, Mr. Budd was the better fieldsman. He stood usually at middle-wicket. We never saw safer hands at a catch: and we have seen him very quick at stumping out. But Lord Frederick could not take every part of the field; but was always short slip, and not one of the very best. And thirdly, Mr. Budd was the better bowler. Mr. Budd hit well from the wrist. At Woolwich he hit a volley to long-field for *nine*, though Mr. Parry threw it in. Mr. Parry was the best fieldsman of his day: point was his favourite place—Mr. Budd also hit out of Lord's old ground. "Lord had said he would forfeit twenty guineas if any one thus proved his ground too small: so we all crowded around Mr. Budd," said Beldham, "and told him what he might claim. 'Well then,' he said, 'I claim it, and give it among the players.' But Lord was shabby, and would not pay." Mr. Budd is now (1872) in his eighty-seventh year: he was at least

sixty before most country Elevens could spare him.

Lambert was also good at every point. In batting he was a bold forward player. He stood with left foot a yard in advance, swaying his bat and body as if to attain momentum, and reaching forward almost to where the ball must pitch.

Lambert's chief point was to take the ball at the pitch and drive it powerfully away, "and," said Mr. Budd, "with slow bowling his return was so quick and forcible, that his whole manner was really intimidating to a bowler." Every one remarked how completely Lambert seemed master of the ball. Usually the bowler appears to attack, and the batsman to defend; but Lambert seemed always on the attack, and the bowler at his mercy, "and hit," said Beldham, "what no one else could meddle with."

Lord Frederick was formed on Beldham's style. Mr. Budd's position at the wicket was much the same: the right foot placed as usual, but the left rather behind and nearly a yard apart, so that, instead of the upright bat and figure of Pilch, the bat was drawn across, and the figure hung away from the wicket. This was a mistake. Before the ball could be played, Mr. Budd was too good a player not to be up, like Pilch, and play well

over his off-stump. Still Mr. Budd explained to us that this position of the left foot was just where one naturally shifts it to have room for a cut: so this strange attitude was supposed to favour their fine off-hits. We say Off-hit, because the Cut did not properly belong to either of these players: Robinson and Saunders were the men to cut—cutting balls clean away from the bails. Brilliant play was especially remarkable in Robinson, because he had a maimed hand, burnt when a child: the handle of his bat was grooved to fit his stunted fingers. Talking of old Robinson's bat, the players once discovered by measurement that it was beyond the statute width, and would not pass through the Standard, a frame kept for the purpose. So, unceremoniously, a knife was produced, and the bat reduced to its just, rather than to its fair, proportions. "Well," said Robinson, "I'll pay you off for spoiling my bat;" and sure enough he did, hitting tremendously, and making one of his largest innings, which were often near a hundred runs.

In the first twenty years of this century, Hampshire, like Kent, had lost its renown, but only because Hambledon was now no more; nor did Surrey and Hampshire any longer count as one. To confirm our assertion that Farnham produced

the players—for, in 1808, Surrey had played and beaten England three times in one season, and from 1820 to 1825 Godalming is mentioned as the most powerful antagonist; but whether called Godalming or Surrey, we must not forget that the locality is the same—we observe, that in 1821, M. C. C. plays "The Three Parishes," namely, Godalming, Farnham, and Hartley Row; which parishes, after rearing the finest contemporaries of Beldham, could then boast a later race of players in Flavel, Searle, Howard, Thumwood, and Mathews.

Early in this century originated the Public School Matches. Eton College and Westminster were the first opponents. One of these matches was played upon Hounslow Heath. Westminster ceased to play about the year 1800, soon after which time Eton and Harrow commenced their matches. Lord Byron played in 1805. They were not played every year, and the scores were unfortunately lost, when the old pavilion at Lord's was destroyed by fire, between the first and second days of an Eton and Harrow match. The earliest that remains to us is that of 1818, won by Harrow by fourteen runs. In 1825, Christopher Wordsworth being the Captain of the Winchester, and his brother Charles of the Harrow Eleven,

Winchester College played its first match upon Lord's ground, defeating Harrow by 135 runs; it followed up this success by beating Eton and Harrow the ensuing year. These matches, however, were not played regularly until 1834.

"About this time" (July 23, 1821), said Beldham, "we played the Coronation Match, 'M.C.C. against the Players of England.' We scored 278 and only six wickets down, when the game was given up. I was hurt and could not run my notches; still James Bland, and the other Legs, begged of me to take pains, for it was no sporting match, 'any odds and no takers;' and they wanted to shame the Gentlemen against wasting their (the Legs') time in the same way another time."

But the day for Hampshire, as for Kent, was doomed to shine again. Fennex, Small, the Walkers, J. Wells, and Hammond, in time drop off from Surrey—and about the same time (1815), Caldecourt, Holloway, Beagley, Thumwood, Shearman, Howard, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Knight restore the balance of power for Hants, as afterwards Broadbridge and Lillywhite for Sussex.

"In 1817 we went," said Mr. Budd, "with Osbaldeston to play twenty-two of Nottingham.

In that match Clarke played. In common with others I lost my money, and was greatly disappointed at the termination. One paid player was accused of selling, and never employed after. The concourse of people was very great; these were the days of the Luddites (rioters), and the magistrates warned us, that unless we would stop our game at seven o'clock, they could not answer for keeping the peace. At seven o'clock we stopped; and, simultaneously, the thousands who lined the ground began to close in upon us. Lord Frederick lost nerve and was very much alarmed; but I said they didn't want to hurt us. No; they simply came to have a look at the eleven men who ventured to play two for one." His lordship broke his finger, and, batting with one hand, scored only eleven runs. Nine men, the largest number perhaps on record, Bentley records as "caught by Budd."

Just before the establishment of Mr. Willes' roundhand bowling, and as if to prepare the way, Ashby came forward with an unusual bias, but no great pace. Sparkes bowled in the same style; as also did Matthews and Mr. Jenner somewhat later. Still the batsmen were full as powerful as ever, numbering Saunders, Searle, Beagley, Messrs. Ward, Kingscote, Knight. Suffolk be-

came very strong with Pilch, the Messrs. Blake, and others of the famous Bury Club; while Slater, Lillywhite, King, and the Broadbridges raised the name of Midhurst and of Sussex.

Against such batsmen every variety of underhand delivery failed to maintain the balance of the game, till J. Broadbridge and Lillywhite, after many protests and discussions, succeeded in establishing what long was called "the Sussex bowling."

The first notice of round-arm bowling is found in the *Sporting Magazine* of July, 1807—"On Monday, the 20th instant, the return grand match between thirteen of All England and twenty-three of Kent, for one thousand guineas, on Penenden Heath, terminated in favour of Kent by 162 runs." This was reckoned the greatest match played in Kent for upwards of twenty years, bets to a large amount depending on both sides. The straight-arm bowling, introduced by John Willes, Esq., was generally practised in the game, and proved an obstacle against getting runs, in comparison to what might have been got by the straightforward bowling. This bowling met with great opposition. Mr. Willes and his bowling were frequently barred in making a match; and he played sometimes amidst much

uproar and confusion. Still he would persevere till the "ring" closed in on the players, the stumps were lawlessly pulled up, and all came to a standstill.

This new style was revived about 1825 by Mr. Knight of Alton. It is said that Willes learnt the delivery from his sister, who used to throw the ball at him for practice. If so, the coincidence is singular, for Mr. Knight learnt it from two ladies in the same kind of practice. Mr. Knight became the patron of Broadbridge and Lillywhite, who about the same time were practising Willes' style in Sussex.

After much controversy, and no little ridicule of this "throwing style," matches were made, three in number, against England as an experimental trial of the new game against the old.

Sussex won the first match by seven wickets. Matthews, whom we remember only as a slow round-arm bowler, played against them; as also did a celebrated left-handed player from Sheffield, Marsden, who played, but was defeated by Pilch at single wicket; one of the severest hitters and best players of his day.

Sussex won the second match by only three wickets, England having a stronger side, but not

the assistance of Mr. Budd. Still, it was creditable to England that, strange as was the bowling, they scored 152 runs in the first innings, and sixty in the second. As bowlers they had Ashby as well as Matthews. Ashby we remember as a practice-bowler at Bath in 1832; he bowled with great bias, underhand and rather slow.

After this second match nine professionals signed a manifesto that they would not play again against Sussex "unless they agreed to bowl fair, that is, abstain from throwing." But this declaration, which we only record to show the excitement of the times, was shortly afterwards withdrawn with a suitable apology.

In the third match England won by twenty-four runs. On this occasion it was determined to play all the best batsmen. They played Fuller Pilch, Beagley, Ward, and Mr. Budd (Lord Frederic Beauclerk had retired), with Searle and Saunders (quite the Grace and Daft of that day), as also Messrs. Osbaldeston and Henry Kingscote, the latter a fine clean hitter, with great power and long reach, standing above six feet two in height.

Our old friend, Captain Richard Cheslyn, played all three matches. "We headed England," said

he, "by 40 runs; we made 77 to their 37 in the first innings, and I stood to win a good round sum. Down for only 27 runs seemed a triumph to the Sussex bowling, and most conclusive of the issue of this match." Others were not so sure of this conclusion; one of them was Mr. Budd, from whom we also heard the story of this match too. "I went up to Captain Cheslyn," said Mr. Budd, "after the first innings, and said, 'If you have heavy bets take my advice, Captain, and hedge, for these men can never beat those. Believe me, this is a game that must turn about.' But Cheslyn was too sanguine to be persuaded by me." In the second innings Saunders, Beagley, and Mr. Kingscote scored 100 between them, and others added 69—169 in all, or 130 for Sussex to make to win.

"This did not look so well," said Cheslyn; "still, I told our side, 'We can do it yet if we all resolve to play a quiet, steady game.' I only wish that all had done so. But almost at the first set-off James Broadbridge, about our best bat, threw his bat clean out of his hand at a wide ball; the ball mounted in the air and was caught by Mr. Ward at point. There was much dispute afterwards in the case, but the umpire gave it out. This loss was a great damage to our side, and we

all went down for 95, and England won the game."

Thomas Assheton Smith, from 1802 to 1820, was one of the best players in England. His forte was in batting. His performances are detailed in his Life by Sir Eardley Willmot.

On Harefield Common, near Rickmansworth, May 21, 1827, a single-wicket match took place between two gentlemen of Middlesex and Mr. Francis Trumper, a farmer at Harefield, who was to have the help of his dog. In the first innings of the two gentlemen they got 3 runs, and Mr. Trumper got 3 for himself and 2 for his dog. In their second innings the two gentlemen again got 3 runs, and Mr. Trumper then going in and getting 2 runs, beat the two gentlemen by two wickets. Betting at starting 5 to 1 against Mr. Trumper and his dog. The dog always stood near his master when he was bowling, and ran after the ball when struck, and returned with it in his mouth so quickly that the two gentlemen had great difficulty to run even from a long hit. The dog was a thoroughbred sheep-dog.

"About 1820," said Mr. Budd, "at our anniversary dinner (three-guinea tickets), held at the Clarendon, Mr. Ward asked me if I had not said I would play any man in England at single-

wicket without fieldsmen. An affirmative produced a match p. p. for fifty guineas. On the day appointed, Mr. Brande proved my opponent. He was a fast bowler. I went in first, and, scoring seventy runs with some severe blows on the legs, —nankeen knees and silk stockings, and no pads in those days,—I consulted a friend and knocked down my own wicket, lest the match should last to the morrow, and I be stiff and unable to play. Mr. Brande was out without a run! I went in again, and making the 70 up to 100, I once more knocked down my own wicket, and once more my opponent failed to score!!"

The flag was flying—the well-known telegraph of a great match—and a large concourse were assembled; and, considering that so good a judge as Mr. Ward made the match, this is probably the most hollow victory on record.

But Osbaldeston's victory was far more satisfactory. Lord Frederick, with Howard, made a p. p. match with Osbaldeston and Lambert. "On the day named," said Budd, "I went to Lord Frederick, representing my friend was too ill to stand, and asked him to put off the match. 'No; play or pay,' said his lordship, quite inexorable. 'Never mind,' said Osbaldeston, 'I won't forfeit; Lambert may beat them both; and, if he does,

the fifty guineas shall be his.'—I asked Lambert how he felt. 'Why,' said he, 'they are anything but safe.'—His lordship wouldn't hear of it. 'Nonsense,' he said, 'you can't mean it.'—'Yes; play or pay, my lord; we are in earnest, and shall claim the stakes!' and, in fact, Lambert did beat them both: for, to play such a man as Lambert, when on his mettle, was rather discouraging; and he did make desperate exertion," said Beldham—"once he rushed up after his ball, and Lord Frederick was caught so near the bat that he lost his temper, and said it was not fair play."

Of course, all hearts were with Lambert, and his adversaries must have felt their spirits rather damped on the occasion.

The following is the score:—

A SINGLE-WICKET MATCH,

At LORD'S, *July* 6 *and* 7, 1810.

1st Innings.

	BALLS.	HITS.		RUNS.
W. Lambert.....	203	167	b Howard.....	56
G. Osbaldeston, Esq...	3	3	retired ill	1
				57

2nd Innings.

	BALLS.	HITS.		RUNS.
W. Lambert.....	78	60	b Howard.....	24
G. Osbaldeston, Esq...			did not go in.	
				24

1st Innings.

	BALLS.	HITS.		RUNS.
Lord F. Beauclerk	52	27	c & b Lambert...	21
T. C. Howard	8	5	b Lambert	3
				24

2nd Innings.

	BALLS.	HITS.		RUNS.
Lord F. Beauclerk	60	40	b Lambert	18
T. C. Howard.....	106	77	b Lambert	24
				42

Lambert (and Osbaldeston) winning by 15 runs.

Lambert thus actually, alone and unassisted, beat two of the best men in England. Mr. Osbaldeston, feeling much too ill to play on the morning fixed for the match, and his request to have it postponed being so positively refused by Lord F. Beauclerk, he contrived to walk up to the wicket in order to be able to claim a substitute in fielding, but this also was overruled!—It was a glorious triumph for Lambert, who received the stakes, one hundred pounds. Lambert bowled "wides" purposely to Lord F. Beauclerk, "in order to put him out of temper," in which he succeeded, and thus aided the match being won. We must remember that at this time "wides" counted for nothing, nor did they form part of the score of a match till about 1827.

"Osbaldeston's mother sat by in her carriage,

and enjoyed the match; and then," said Beldham, "Lambert was called to the carriage, and bore away a paper parcel; some said it was a gold watch—some suspected bank-notes. Trust Lambert to keep his own secrets. We were all curious, but no one ever knew;"—and no one ever will know. In March, 1851, the author addressed a letter to him at Reigate. Soon, a brief paragraph in a Surrey newspaper announced the death of "the once-celebrated cricket-player, William Lambert."

CHAPTER VI.

A DARK CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF CRICKET.

THE lovers of Cricket may congratulate themselves that matches, at the present day, are made at Cricket, as at Chess, rather for the honour of victory than for money.

It is now many years since Lord's was frequented by men with book and pencil, betting as openly and professionally as in the ring at Epsom, and ready to deal in the odds with any and every person of speculative propensities. Far less satisfactory was the state of things with which Lord F. Beauclerk and Mr. Ward had to contend, to say nothing of the earlier days of the Earl of Winchelsea and Sir Horace Mann. As to the latter period, "Old Nyren" bewails its evil doings. He speaks of one who had "the trouble of proving himself a rogue," and also of "the legs of Marylebone," who tried, for once in vain, to corrupt some primitive specimens of Hambledon innocence. He says, also, that the grand matches of

his day were always made for £500 a side. Add to this the fact that bets were in proportion; and that Jim and Joe Bland, of turf notoriety, with Dick Whitlom of Covent Garden, Simpson a gaming-house keeper, and Toll of Esher, attended as regularly at Lord's as Crockford and Gully at Epsom and Ascot; and the idea that all the Surrey and Hampshire rustics should either want or resist strong temptations to sell, is not to be entertained for a moment. The constant habit of betting will take the honesty out of any man. A half-crown sweepstakes, or betting such odds as lady's long kids to gentleman's short ditto, is all very fair sport; but if a man, after years of high betting, can still preserve the fine edge and tone of honest feeling, he is indeed a wonder. To bet on a certainty all admit to be swindling. If so, to bet where you feel it is a certainty, must be very bad moral practice.

"If gentlemen wanted to bet," said Beldham, "just under the pavilion sat men ready, with money down, to give and take the current odds: these were by far the best men to bet with, because, if they lost, it was all in the way of business; they paid their money and did not grumble. Still, they had all sorts of tricks to make their betting safe." "One artifice," said

Mr. Ward, "was to keep a player out of the way by a false report that his wife was dead. Then these men would come down to the Green Man and Still, and drink with us, and always said that those who backed us, or 'the nobs,' as they called them, sold the matches; and so, sir, as you are going the round beating up the quarters of the old players, you will find some to persuade you this is true. But don't believe it. That any gentleman in my day ever put himself into the power of these blacklegs, by selling matches, I can't credit. Still, one day, I thought I would try how far these tales were true. So, going down into Kent, with 'one of high degree,' he said to me, 'Will, if this match is won, I lose a hundred pounds!'—'Well,' said I, 'my lord, you and I *could* order that.' He smiled as if nothing were meant, and talked of something else; and, as luck would have it, he and I were in together, and brought up the score between us, though every run seemed to me like 'a guinea out of his lordship's pocket."

In those days, foot-races were very common. Lord Frederick and Mr. Budd were first-rate runners, and bets were freely laid. So, one day, old Fennex laid a trap for the gentlemen: he brought up, to act the part of some silly con-

ceited youngster with his pockets full of money, a first-rate runner out of Hertfordshire. This soft young gentleman ran a match or two with some known third-rate men, and seemed to win by a neck, and no pace to spare. Then he calls out, "I'll run any man on the ground for £25—money down." A match was quickly made, and money laid pretty thick on Fennex's account. Some said, "Too bad to win of such a green young fellow!" Others said, "He's old enough—serve him right." So the laugh was long and loud against those who were taken in; of course "the green one" ran away like a hare!

"You see, sir," said one fine old man, with brilliant eye and a quickness of movement which showed his right hand had not yet forgot its cunning, "matches were bought, and matches were sold, and gentlemen who meant honestly lost large sums of money, till the rogues beat themselves at last. They overdid it; they spoilt their own trade; and, as I said to one of them, 'A knave and a fool make a bad partnership; so, you and yourself will never prosper.' Well, surely there was robbery enough; and not a few of the great players earned money to their own disgrace, but there was not half the selling there was said to be. Yes, I can guess, sir, much as you

have been talking to all the old players over this good stuff" (pointing to the brandy-and-water I had provided), "no doubt you have heard that B—— sold as bad as the rest. I'll tell the truth: one match up the country I did sell,—a match made by Mr. Osbaldeston at Nottingham. I had been sold out of a match just before, and lost £10; and happening to hear it, I joined two others of our eleven to sell, and get back my money. I won £10 exactly, and of this roguery no one ever suspected me; but many was the time I have been blamed for selling when as innocent as a babe.

"In those days, when so much money was laid on matches, every man who lost his money would blame some one. Then if A missed a catch, or B made no runs,—and where's the player whose hand is always in?—that man was called a rogue directly. So, when a man was doomed to lose his character, and to bear all the smart, there was the more temptation to do like others, and after 'the kicks' to come in for 'the halfpence.' But I am an old man now, and heartily sorry I have been ever since; because but for that Nottingham match I could have said with a clear conscience to a gentleman like you, that all which was said was false, and I never sold a match in

my life; but now I can't. But if I had fifty sons, I would never put one of them, for all the games in the world, in the way of the roguery that I have witnessed. The temptation really was very great,—too great by far for any poor man to be exposed to no richer than ten shillings a week, let alone harvest-time.—I never told you, sir, the way I first was brought to London. I was a lad of eighteen at this Hampshire village, and Lord Winchelsea had seen us play, and watched the match with the Hambledon Club on Broad-halfpenny, when I scored forty-three against David Harris, and ever so many of the runs against David's bowling, and no one ever could manage David before. So, next year, in the month of March, I was down in the meadows, when a gentleman came across the fields with Farmer Hilton; and, thought I, all in a minute, now this is something about Cricket. Well, at last it was settled I was to play Hampshire against England, at London, in White Conduit Fields ground, in the month of June.

"For three months I did nothing but think about that match. Tom Walker was to travel up from this country, and I agreed to go with Tom; and found myself, at last, with a merry company of cricketers. All the men whose names I had

ever heard as foremost in the game, met together, drinking, card-playing, betting, and singing, at the Green Man (that was the great cricketers' house) in Oxford Street—no man without his wine, I assure you; and such suppers as three guineas a game to lose, and five to win (that was then the sum for players), could never pay for long. To go to London by the waggon, to earn five guineas three or four times told, and come back with half the money in your pocket to the plough again, was all very well talking. You know what young folk are, sir, when they get together; mischief brews stronger in large quantities: so many spent all their earnings, and were soon glad to make more money some other way. Hundreds of pounds were bet upon all the great matches, and other wagers laid on the scores of the finest players, and that too by men who had a book for every race and every match in the sporting world—men who lived by gambling; and, as to honesty, gambling and honesty don't often go together. What was easier, then, than for such sharp gentlemen to mix with the players, to take advantage of their difficulties, and to say, 'Your backers, my Lord this, and the Duke of that, sell matches and overrule all your good play, so why shouldn't you have a share of the plunder?'—

that was their constant argument—'Serve them as they serve you.'—You have heard of Jim Bland, the turfsman, and his brother Joe—two nice boys. When Jemmy Dawson was hanged for poisoning the horse, the Blands never felt safe till the rope was round Dawson's neck: to keep him quiet, they persuaded him to the last hour that no one dared hang him, and that a certain nobleman had a reprieve in his pocket.

"Well, one day in April, Joe Bland traced me out in this parish and tried his game on with me. 'You may make a fortune,' he said, 'if you will listen to me: so much for the match with Surrey, and so much more for the Kent match—' 'Stop,' said I, 'Mr. Bland; you talk too fast. I am rather too old for this trick. You never buy the same man but once; if their lordships ever sold at all, you would peach upon them if ever after they dared to win. You'll try me once, and then you'll have me in a line like our friend at the mill last year.' No, sir; a man was a slave when once he sold to these folk: 'fool and knave aye go together.' Still, they found fools enough for their purpose; but rogues can never trust each other.

"One day, a sad quarrel arose between two of them, which opened the gentlemen's eyes too wide

to close again to those practices. Two very big rogues at Lord's fell a-quarrelling, and blows were given; a crowd drew round, and the gentlemen ordered them both into the pavilion. When the one began, 'You had £20 to lose the Kent match, bowling leg, long hops and missing catches.'—'And you were paid to lose at Swaffham.'—'Why did that game with Surrey turn about—three runs to get, and you didn't make them?'

"Angry words come out fast, and when they are circumstantial, and square with previous suspicions, they are proofs as strong as holy writ. In one single-wicket match," he continued—"and those were always great matches for the sporting men, because usually you had first-rate men on each side, and their merits known—dishonesty was as plain as this. Just as a player was coming in (John B. will confess this if you talk of the match), he said to me, 'You'll let me score five or six for appearances, won't you? for I am not going to make many if I can.' 'Yes,' I said, 'you rogue, you shall, if I can *not* help it.'—But, when a game was all but won, and the odds heavy, and all one way, it was cruel to see how the fortune of the day then would change about.

"In that Kent match,—you can turn to it in

your book (Bentley's scores), played 28th July, 1807, on Penenden Heath,—I and Lord Frederick had scored sixty-one, and thirty remained to win, and six of the best men in England went out for eleven runs. Well, sir, I lost some money by that match, and as seven of us were walking homewards to meet a coach, a gentleman who had backed the match drove by and said, 'Jump up, my boys; we have all lost together. I need not mind if I hire a pair of horses extra next town, for I have lost money enough to pay for twenty pair or more.' Well, thought I, as we rode along, you have rogues enough in your carriage now, sir, if the truth were told, I'll answer for it; and one of them let out the secret, some ten years after.

"But, sir, I can't help laughing when I tell you: once, there was a single-wicket match played at Lord's, and a man on each side was payed to lose—one was bowler and the other batsman—when the game came to a near point. I knew their politics, the rascals, and saw in a minute how things stood; and how I did laugh, to be sure! For seven balls together, one would not bowl straight, and the other would not hit; but at last a straight ball must come, and down went the wicket."

From other information received, I could tell this veteran that, even in his much-repented Nottingham match, his was not the only side that had men resolved to lose. The match was sold for Nottingham too, and that with less success, for Nottingham won—an event the less difficult to accomplish, as Lord Frederick broke a finger in an attempt to stop an angry and furious throw from Shearman, whom he had scolded for slack play. His lordship batted with one hand. Afterwards lockjaw threatened; and Lord Frederick Beauclerk was well-nigh a victim to Cricket.

"This practice of selling matches," said Beldham, "produced strange things sometimes. Once I remember, England was playing Surrey, and in my judgment, Surrey had the best side; still, I found the Legs were betting seven to four against Surrey! This time they were done; for they betted on the belief that some Surrey men had sold the match; but Surrey then played to win.

"Crockford used to be seen about Lord's, and Mr. Gully also occasionally, but only for the society of sporting men; they did not understand the game, and I never saw them bet. Mr. Gully was often talking to me about the game for one season; but," said the old man, as he smoothed

down his smock-frock, with all the confidence in the world, "I could never put any sense into him; he knew plenty about fighting, and afterwards of horse-racing; but a man cannot learn the odds of Cricket unless he is something of a player."

CHAPTER VII.

THE SURREY—ITS HISTORY.

THE present Surrey County Club having been established to reinstate Surrey in its once proud position, let us briefly review its Cricket history.

Surrey has as much right as any county to claim the honour of establishing Cricket as a county game. Hampshire was once considered the native land of bats and stumps, but only because the Hambledon Club play in Hampshire. Now, this club was quite at the Surrey end of Hants, and the Surrey men were among the finest players in it. Indeed, in the old scores the same men are found indifferently on the side of Surrey and of Hants—perhaps because they had their homes in the one and their cricket-ground in the other.

As far back as the year 1767, Surrey did its full share in all the matches of the day. For some ten years Surrey against Hambledon and

Surrey against Kent was an annual match, and these three names—Hambledon, Surrey, and Kent—were the only great names in Cricket history. The Earl of Winchelsea and the Hon. Colonel Lennox used to back Surrey, and Sir Horace Mann backed Kent. As Cricket spread in Hants, Hampshire against Surrey took the place of the Hambledon match. Much interest was at that early period taken in the training of cricketers, because we find, even in 1781, a colt-match—Colts of Surrey *v.* the Colts of Hants. At this match Lord Strathavon and the Hon. H. Fitzroy appeared among the supporters of Surrey.

In the year 1793, Surrey played All England, heading in the first innings, but ultimately losing by seven wickets. In this match they were weighted with four amateurs of title; but next year, choosing with less regard to rank, Surrey lost by only three runs, though playing thirteen of England. Next year, 1795, Surrey beat easily thirteen of England. The year after, Surrey beat eleven of England in one innings, giving them one of the Walkers. The Hon. E. Bligh and H. Tufton now played for Surrey. England then won their even matches; but towards the end of the century Surrey grew again too strong for England. Perhaps the Surrey gentlemen im-

proved; for Surrey evidently could not choose their best men. In 1800, therefore, we find the odds of twelve of Surrey to fourteen of England; and it is curious to observe that same year twelve of England played twenty-three of Kent, losing by only 11 runs.

About this time Surrey had Lambert as well as Robertson—a very great accession to their strength; and Surrey each year won one match out of the two which were usually played. Surrey also won easily in 1805, Robinson on their side, in their first game, scoring 93, to balance Lord F. Beauclerk's contribution of 102 for England. They also won the second match almost in one innings. In 1809 Surrey won both matches. The second of the two was played with, in one sense, the strangest odds on record—Surrey lent England Beldham, their best player, both as batsman and as bowler, as a man given!

The same match was played till 1817, by which time England had grown too strong, both Mr. Budd and Lord Fred. Beauclerk being at their best: though John Shearman was a great acquisition to Surrey, Mr. Osbaldeston's swift bowling lost them more runs than he saved.

The year 1817, therefore, saw the last of Surrey's even-handed attempts against All Eng-

land: the match was never played again for thirty-five years—till the year 1852.

As to the celebrities of Surrey during all this time, among the Surrey men were the Walkers, especially Tom and Harry. Tom was called "Old Everlasting," from his vexatious and interminable defence. Bennet told us that though Tom was more to be depended on, Harry's half-hour at the wicket was as good as Tom's whole afternoon. No names of olden time were better known than those of the Walkers; but we owe it entirely to "Old Nyren" that these and other Hambledon worthies have not long since been forgotten; that is to say, our friend Charles Cowden Clarke, a writer of much taste, and the friend of Keats and Charles Lamb, listened to the old yeoman's yarns, and put them down in his own pleasant way.

Tom Walker's bat may now be seen at Lord's, as also Robinson's—the handle grooved to fit his burnt and stunted fingers.

Crawte was the best of the Kent side. We call attention to him because, like Pilch in later times, he received a consideration from Mr. Amherst to live in Kent and support the honour of that county. But Crawte was a Surrey man, and so it was to Surrey that Kent had in those days to look for a recruit; though so truly was Cricket natu-

ralised in Kent, that an old gentleman who could remember play in 1780 told us that on every village-green in Kent you might have seen games of Cricket.

Besides these men there were John and James Wells, W. Beldham, Robinson, Barton, J. Hampton, Lambert, Sparks, Bentley, Harding, Bridger, L. Powell, John and James Shearman. These, with the three Walkers and Crawte, were the principal names from which the Surrey Eleven was chosen for twenty years. Most of the following noblemen and gentlemen at different times formed part of this County Eleven—Earl of Winchelsea, Hon. E. Bligh, Hons. H. and A. Tufton, Hon. D. Kinnaird, Sir H. Martin, Mr. Mellish, Mr. Whitehead, G. Leicester, Colonel Onslow, G. Cooper, Esq., J. Lawrell, Esq., Colonel Maitland, J. Tanner, F. Ladbroke, T. Vigne, B. Aislabie.

Whoever looks over the scores of the M. C. C. will perceive how large a proportion of the leading members of that club were Surrey men.

From the year 1817 the name of Surrey as one united County Club is quite lost in the annals of Cricket. England, for three or four years, divided against Hants; but Surrey is represented only by a variety of separate clubs—Mitcham, Epsom, Farnham, Hartley Row, Godalming, Dorking,

Woking. If, therefore, the gentlemen of the Surrey County Club aspire to replace Surrey in its former county position and in the plenary possession of that strength which belongs only to a united people, they will allow us to inform them that the position they have succeeded in restoring is one that Surrey held for fifty years. During the whole of this time Surrey could hold its own against any single county, and for twenty years Surrey was a match for All England, and even gave them odds as essential to the interests of the annual contests.

Robinson was one of the best hitters of his day —left-handed, and a very hard off-hitter. He was a cricketer under difficulties, for he could only catch with his left hand, the fingers of his right hand having been burnt off when a child. He was called "Long Robin," being six feet one inch high. and by some "Three-fingered Jack." Some curious things are remembered of Robinson. He once had the legitimacy of his bat called in question and shaved down to the proper measure while he stood angry by. Barker remembered a man's bat being served in the same way at Lord's. "Robinson," says Mr. Merton, sen., the dramatist, "introduced spikes. He had them for one foot, but of monstrous length." Sparks used to mention a kind of

greave, two thin boards set anglewise, to guard his shin; but the fairness of the leg-byes, which went off rather too clean, was called into question, and Robinson was laughed out of his invention.

The Duke of Dorset (the third duke) was one of the earliest promoters of the game—one who did much to redeem it from the character so long it bore, as only a game for the lower orders,—a reflection which, perhaps, though true to London, might not have represented the sentiments of country life. A game that requires so many on a side must always have required some care and pains to keep a strong Eleven together. Hence we read of professionals very early. The Duke of Dorset engaged in his service Miller, Minshull, and W. Bowra, amongst the best of his day. The Earl of Tankerville retained Lumpy and Bedster. Mr. Lawrell employed Robinson as his keeper. Sir Horace Mann engaged George Ring as his huntsman and John Ring as his whipper-in. Mr. Amherst used to employ Boxall to bowl to him—in winter in a barn, as well as in summer in the fields; and Boxall was one of the best Surrey bowlers, born at Ripley. These standing engagements on the part of professionals show great interest in the game.

The town of Sevenoaks was indebted to the

Duke of Dorset for the Vine Ground, assigned by a deed of trust to be a cricket-ground for ever.

The Duke of Dorset was nearly being the cause of what in those days would have been equal to the enterprise that sent our Elevens to America one year, and to Australia the next; for, while Ambassador to France in 1784, he wrote to Yalden, Captain of the County Eleven, at Chertsey, to find an Eleven to go over and show the game at Paris! The Eleven had been chosen, and they had actually travelled as far as Dover, with the Earl of Tankerville at their head, when the Duke of Dorset met them as he was returning: he was flying before the first outbreak of the French Revolution.

The Surrey County Cricket Club dates from the year 1845. In the month of October in that year, at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, there was a large gathering of the representatives of the principal clubs in the County of Surrey, to enrol members, to decide on rules, and to do all things necessary for inaugurating in good earnest a club worthy of the fame of this pre-eminently cricketing land, and, we may say, the very nursery of cricketers.

The Hon. F. Ponsonby came over from Ireland for the express purpose of presiding on the occasion. W. Denison, Esq., was vice-chairman at the dinner on that day, and among the company

present was, first of all, W. Ward, Esq., with Messrs. W. and C. Pickering; J. Napper, from the Dorking Club; J. Banner, from the New East Surrey Club; Messrs. Horner and Hoare, of the Dulwich Club; Messrs. Earnshaw, White, and other gentlemen represented the South London Club; while it were long to tell those who respectively represented the Montpelier, the Clapham, the Dulwich, and various other clubs, all within a circle sufficiently near to regard a general Surrey County Club as their centre.

After dinner, the Hon. F. Ponsonby at once enunciated the object and the principle on which it was proposed to found one central club south of the Thames. "It would be established with a view of bringing out the cricketing strength of the county;" and, as Mr. W. Pickering added, "to give the cricketers of Surrey an opportunity of proving that they inherited or retained much, if not all, the strength of play for which their forefathers in the game had been so distinguished."

That there should be some such rallying-point—some such "fair field and no favour," was still further maintained by Mr. Napper. He truly argued that it was indeed an anomaly, that while Kent and Sussex were each actuated by a spirit of nationality, and all the emulation of distinct

clans, Surrey should of late years, for want of "a local habitation and a name," exemplify all the weakness that must result from those forces scattered which they now proposed to concentrate and to combine.

As to the glories of Surrey in days gone by, Mr. Ward reminded the meeting that Surrey had not only been once able to play All England, but that it had won the game against extra numbers on some occasions, and had given men on others.

The Hon. F. Ponsonby was then elected the first vice-president; and at an early meeting in the year following, the first year of the play, William Strachan, Esq., of Ashurst, was elected first President of the Surrey County Club.

Martingale and Brockwell were the first professional bowlers engaged, both from Surrey; and, true to the principle of encouraging the county in every respect, the bats and stumps were ordered of Mr. Page, and an inquiry was made, though made in vain, for a manufacturer of cricket-balls in Surrey.

The season commenced with about 120 members, but every day added to the number, a circular being widely distributed about the county to this effect:—That the County of Surrey had once held a high position in the world of Cricket; that to restore the county to its former rank, "the Surrey

Club" had been founded; that the object of the Committee would be to seek out and bring together the cricketing talent, to play matches on their own ground on the Oval, Kennington, as also in different parts of Surrey, and to engage the best bowlers of the same county for the practice of the members.

Wednesday, the 13th of May, 1846, was the first day the Surrey Club ever pitched their stumps upon the Oval.

The club now having the entire control of the county ground, a new era dawned upon its operations, and from that moment those who conducted its affairs availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of introducing a series of great county matches. The men of Surrey now began to rally round the County Club.

In the year 1857 the Surrey Pavilion was built; from which date the number of the members and the success of the county in the field fully rewarded past exertions, as the Club had the honour of winning every match but one in that year,—thus reaping golden opinions from all kinds of men; and guineas too, for their income proved nearly double that of the former year.

In 1858 still greater success is chronicled; for though they contended against All England for

the first time, they won every match—a thing unprecedented in the annals of the game.

In the years 1859, 1860, and 1861, and down to the year 1865, the county honourably maintained its position—setting forth an annually improving programme of great events, and ever watching opportunities that presented themselves of inviting the other counties of England to a fair trial of their strength.

In this emulous spirit for two years the Club had "fixtures" with Nottinghamshire, thereby keeping alive the spirit of that county, and virtually re-establishing their County Club.

Since that time, until about the year 1867, the County held its own with the best. It made a pride of throwing down the gauntlet to all antagonists, and during the years when Mr. F. P. Miller was captain, and Lockyer, Cæsar, Caffyn, H. H. Stephenson, Mr. F. Burbidge, and Mr. C. G. Lane, were under his command, "the Surrey Eleven" was a synonym for the finest cricket of the day. During this period Mr. William Burrup had acted as honorary secretary to the Club, and to his energy the pre-eminence of Surrey was almost entirely due. For a few years the County then sank considerably, for the reason that there were no new young players fitted

to fill the gaps caused by the retirement of the veterans who had done the County such stout service. Last year (1872), though, the Club began a new lease of life under the charge of a new secretary (Mr. C. W. Alcock), and with his influence and energy every well-wisher of County Cricket will feel justified in prophesying a speedy return to the brave old days of Surrey.

The origin of the All England Eleven and its travelling circus company was this:—In the year 1846 much interest was excited in a match between eleven of England under Clarke and twenty of Sheffield. "Soon after that," said Mr. Dark, "I heard of Clarke with the same eleven having made a match against some side at Newcastle, where, as I told Clarke, there were no players at all fit to stand against him. 'Never you mind, replied Clarke, 'I shall play sides, strong or weak, with numbers or with bowlers given, and shall play all over the country, too—mark my words—and it will make good for cricket and for your trade too.' And sure enough the increase of my bat-and-ball trade bears witness to Clarke's long-sighted speculation." The names of the first and original eleven that played at Sheffield were: W. Clarke, Dean, Dorrington, Pilch, Mynn, Guy, Martingell, Sewell, Butler, V. C. Smith, Esq.,

and Hillyer; and we doubt if any eleven alive could have beaten that eleven, so very effective was Clarke, especially against all who played him for the first time, though a formidable opponent at all times. He played without a long-stop, and twelve men out in the field. On match days he used to walk round the ground while men were practising for their innings, and calmly make his observations. Felix said, "Clarke would observe to me, 'I have summed them up, and they are worth (so many) an innings. I have noted three or four pretty hitters where they understand the bowling, but they are as good as ready-money to me; we shall have "a accident" with these men very soon.'" Clarke's judgment in these cases was remarkable. The certainty also with which he would place his men and play for a catch has been remarked by all who knew him.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE ZINGARI—THEIR ORIGIN.

THE Marylebone Cricket Club is the great central power, the very balance-wheel of the world-wide machinery of Cricket. It affords the "fair stage and no favour" on which each "colt" may show his best paces and promising action, and each candidate for renown set forth his best pretensions. It keeps up a high standard of excellence; so that Oxford, Cambridge, or any of the public schools may measure their strength against a Marylebone deputation without much danger of mistaking the powers of their Eleven.

But the M.C.C. is tied to time and place; its circuit is limited, having "a local habitation and a name." The exigencies of the country, therefore, in these railway days, required some club of equal strength and standing, but movable and ubiquitous withal. It wanted an amateur All England Eleven, ready alike to flit down for a day's play at Eton, or to cross the channel to

astonish Paddy in the Phœnix Park, and (as once we heard) to give as much entertainment in one way as they received in another at Viceregal quarters, and even to bestow on the representative of her Majesty "the freedom"—which, no doubt, he sighed for—of the very original (if not the primeval) community and guild of I Zingari.

We need make no apology for commencing the history of this interesting race *ab ovo*—that is to say, from the first conception over a quiet omelette at the Blenheim Hotel, nearly twenty years ago; because, as time goes on, new things become old, and things once familiar, as within the memory of living man, require quite the work of the antiquary to rescue them from oblivion, or, at least, from the vagueness of all traditionary lore. Already the origin of the Zingari is to many almost as great a mystery as the ancestry of those erratic tribes whose name they bear. Yes; we have spoken to first-rate cricketers, in the pride of their strength and the maturity of their play, who, when asked about the Zingari, would say, "They were already a people of renown before we were breeched, if not before we were born."

But we are now speaking about the "freedom" of I Zingari.

As to this "freedom," though really gasped for

as an honour, even by those who have exhausted all the known glories of the "heavens above and the earth beneath,"* it must not, by any means, be confused with ideas of strict immunity: nay, rather, it savours of the honour of those visits which their Egyptian prototypes are wont to pay where most hens cackle and most ducks quack. That is to say, they are rather costly visitors: only since, in the most ruinous depredations of which we have ever known them guilty, their own true and loving subjects have been the sufferers, and most willing sufferers too, the usual pains and penalties of the Vagrant Act, in their case, would hardly fall within the contemplation of any enlightened and liberal legislature. Still, we must admit, many of them have "no visible occupation," which is always held suspicious. However, in all wise political economy it is maintained that those who increase the demand must stimulate production, and indirectly add to the supplies; and if so, this illustrious race, pre-eminently *nati consumere fruges*, must be allowed to form a very valuable element in the Commonwealth.

Having gone to the fountain-head of information, we can depose, from the Book of the Chro-

* *Prosaicè*, Stars and Garters.

nicles of I Zingari,—that is, "if they have writ their annals right,"—to the following effect:—

Good cricketers are not often "cricket *et præterea nihil;*" that is to say, there is generally something in the head when there is so much in the heels, and at the fingers' ends too; and some distinguished cricketers—witness Felix, who had music in his soul, and could sing and play exquisitely on some seven instruments, and sketch cleverly besides—some, we say, have been merry fellows, both "with wit themselves," and also, as Falstaff claimed to be, "the cause of wit in other men."

When, in or about 1836, we were ourselves rejoicing in the matches on the Cowley Ground at Oxford—yes, *the* ground; there was but one, the ground of the Magdalen Club, so called because founded by Mr. Walker of Magdalen College, though it was soon afterwards the club of the University at large—and when, at the same time, every copy of *Bell's Life* recorded the prowess of certain gentlemen, believed to be practising hard to meet us that year at Lord's—just then, among the number of our much-respected opponents, were names since known to fame, Ponsonby, Taylor, Broughton—gentlemen who were the admired of all beholders, with buskin as with bat: for

private theatricals divided their leisure hours with cricket, whence sprung many matches under various names—with dramatic entertainments for the evening, after the usual pastime of the day—and, ultimately, the annual Canterbury meetings, which have now stood the shock of time and the caprice of fashion for the full period of twenty years.

When once you throw great men together, something greater still is ever likely to sparkle and bubble forth. Accordingly, "one day in the month of July, 1845," *vera loquor*, F. Ponsonby, S. Ponsonby, R. P. Long, and I. L. Baldwin, good men and true, finding themselves at supper at the Blenheim Hotel, then and there formed a club, christened the same, framed rules, and the following day informed twenty-one of their friends that they had received the distinguished honour of being members of I Zingari.

That there is something truly pure-minded and disinterested in this community, the slightest glance at their laws will prove. With all other societies the first thing you hear is "Pay your money;" but with the Zingari, Rule 6 relieves your apprehension: thus—

"That the entrance be nothing, and the annual subscription do not exceed the entrance."

Nevertheless, though the Zingari treasury does

not contain as much as shin-plaster, it is duly protected by two Secretaries, one Chancellor, one liberal Legal Adviser, and one Treasurer and Auditor of their financial accounts.

As they savour of such remote antiquity, it were long to trace the achievements and the distinguished honours of the Zingari; we glance only at the earlier members, and the auspices under which they started into life. *Quid memorem*, F. Ponsonby, the very Nestor of the strife, whose counsel is still valuable in the tent, though now to the generation he has tutored at Harrow many a happy day, in company with another distinguished member, R. Grimston, he may sometimes yield his place in the field; or Boudier, a tower of strength to the Gentlemen against the Players, after founding, in 1831, "The Sixpenny Club," for the lower boys at Eton; Hartopp, whose stopping was as essential, even as if providentially sent on purpose, lest the bowling of a Fellowes should run to waste in the very luxuriance of its strength; and W. Pickering, perhaps never equalled at Cover Point, and prime mover in the arrangement for Eleven of England to visit Canada and the United States.—It runs us out of breath to keep pace with so much greatness, so here we beg to stop.

The Zingari have, by this present date, played above 230 matches, and have either won or had the best of about two out of three.

We are, therefore—descending now to plain sublunary views—decidedly of opinion that by this time the noblemen and gentlemen of the Zingari are entitled to take substantial rank in the cricket-world. Their principle has been to provide the best of amateur play; no professionals, save as umpires, are ever allowed to take part in a Zingari match; and their numbers are annually recruited from the rising talent of the day, as they enact *si bene se gesserint*—meaning, probably, what is written up in some village-schools, "None admitted that don't learn manners."

CHAPTER IX.

Βαττολογια,

OR THE SCIENCE AND ART OF BATTING.

A WRITER in *Blackwood* once attributed the success of his magazine to the careful exclusion of every bit of science, or reasoning, above half an inch long. The Cambridge Professors do not exclusively represent the mind of Parker's Piece; then away with the stiffness of analysis and the mysteries of science! The laws of Dynamics might puzzle, and the very name of *Physics* alarm many an able-bodied cricketer; so, invoking the genius of our mother-tongue, let us exhibit science in its more palatable form.

All the balls that can be bowled may, for all practical purposes, be reduced to a few simple classes, and plain rules may be given for each. There are what are called Good balls and Bad balls: the former, "good lengths," and straight, while puzzling to the eye; the latter, "bad lengths," and wide, while easy to see and hit.

But, is not a good hand and eye quite enough, with a little practice, without all this theory? Do you ignore the Pilches and the Parrs, who have proved famous hitters from their own sense alone?—The question is, not how many have succeeded, but how many more have failed? Cricket by nature is like learning from a village dame; it leaves a great deal to be untaught before the pupil makes a good scholar. If you have good professional instructions *vivâ voce*, why not on paper also? What though many excellent musicians do not know a note, every good musician will bear witness that the consequence of Nature's teaching is, that men form a vicious habit almost impossible to correct, a lasting bar to brilliant execution. And why?—because the piano or the violin leaves no dexterity or rapidity to spare. Our muscles act freely in one way only, —in every other way with loss of power. So with batting. A good ball requires all the power and energy of the man; and, as with riding, driving, rowing, or any other exercise, it depends on a certain form, attitude, or position, whether this power be forthcoming or not.

The scope for useful instructions for *forming good habits of hitting before their place is preoccupied*

with bad—for, "there's the rub"—is very great indeed.

The following are simple rules for forming correct habits of play; for adding the judgment of the veteran to the activity of youth; or say, for putting an old head on young shoulders, and teaching the said young shoulders not to get into each other's way:—

And first, I presume that every reader has some living lexicon to explain common cricketing terms.

All balls that can be bowled are reducible to "length balls" and "not lengths."

Not lengths are the toss, the tice, the half-volley, the long hop, and ground-balls.

These are *not-length balls*, not pitched at that critical length which puzzles the judgment as to whether to play forward or back, as will presently be explained. These are all "bad balls;" and among good players considered certain hits; though, from the delusive confidence they inspire, sometimes they are bowled with success against even the best of players.

These *not lengths*, therefore, being the easiest to play, as requiring only hand and eye but little judgment, are the best for a beginner to practise; so we will first set the tyro in a proper position

to play these easy balls with certainty and effect.

POSITION.—Look at any professional player,—observe how he stands and holds his bat. Much, very much, depends on position,—so study the attitude of any good batsman. Some think he should bend the right knee a little; but an anatomist reminds me that it is when the limb is straight that the muscles are relaxed, and most ready for sudden action. Various as attitudes appear to the casual observer, all coincide in the main points given below—

1st. Stand with the right foot just within the line. Further in, would limit the reach and endanger the wicket: further out, would endanger stumping.

2ndly. All divide their weight between their two feet, though making the right leg more the pillar and support, the left being rather lightly placed, and more ready to move on, off, or forward: and this we call the Balance-foot.

3rdly. All stand as close as they can without being before the wicket: otherwise, the bat cannot be upright, nor can the eye command a line from the bowler's hand.

4th. All stand at guard as upright as is easy

to them. We say *easy*, not to forbid a slight stoop—the attitude of extreme caution. Height is a great advantage, and good players make the most of every inch. Humphrey, for instance, or Jupp, are taller in effect than many tall men. The higher your eye, the more clear the length of the ball. If you stand low, you cannot see as much of the game as if you hold up your head and look down on the length of (or the angle made at the pitch of) the ball. Few men play tall enough. Mr. Grace is a good model in this as in other respects; the moment he takes up his bat to receive the ball, he will be seen to stand up to his full natural height.

5thly. All good players stand easy, and hold the bat lightly, yet firmly, in their hands. However rigid your muscles, you must relax them before they can start into action. Rossi, the sculptor, made a beautiful marble statue of a batsman at guard, for the late Mr. William Ward, who said, "You are no cricketer, Mr. Sculptor; the wrists are too rigid, and hands too much clenched."

After standing at guard in the attitude of Pilch, fig. 1 shows the bat taken up ready for action. But, at what moment are you to raise your bat? Some good players have insisted on the habit of

F g. 1.—Preparing for action.*

not raising the bat till we descry the length of the ball; but an experienced player should aspire to more power and freedom, and rise into the attitude of fig. 1 as soon as the ball is out of the bowler's hand. Some begin an innings with their bat down, and raise it as they gain confidence—but, avoid slaving at the blockhole.

* The toes are too much before wicket, and foot hardly within the crease. Foreshortening suits our illustration better than artistic effect.

MEET THE BALL WITH AS FULL A BAT AS THE CASE ADMITS. Consider the full force of this rule.

1st. *Meet the ball.* The bat must strike the ball, not the ball the bat. Even if you block, you can block hard, and the wrists may do no little; so with a good player this rule admits of no exception. Even in playing back to a bail-ball, a good player contrives to meet the ball, and play it with a resolute movement of arm and wrist. Mr. W. Grace is not caught in the attitude of what some call Hanging guard, letting the ball hit his bat dead, once in a season.

2ndly. *With a full bat.* A good player has never less wood than 21 inches by 4¼ inches before his wicket as he plays the ball—a bad player has rarely more than a bat's width alone. Remember the old rule, to keep the left shoulder over the ball, and left elbow well up. Good players must be cautioned not to do this in excess; for some actually play from leg to off, across the line of the ball, in their over-care to keep the shoulder over it. Fix a bat by pegs in the ground, and try to bowl the wicket down, and you will perceive what an unpromising antagonist upright and straight play alone can constitute. I like to see a bat, as the ball is

coming, hang perpendicular as a pendulum from the player's wrist.

Mr. Grace is one of the few who play quite straight. If it is granted (as it is) that few men play as straight as Mr. Grace, this is an admission that upright play, as Pilch would have accounted upright, is very rare at the present day. Cricket is not improved in this respect.

3rdly. *As full a bat as the case admits.* You cannot present a full bat to any but a straight ball. A bat brought forward from the centre stump to a ball Off or to leg, must be minutely oblique, and form an angle sufficient to make Off or On hits. Herein consists the great excellence of batting, *in presenting the largest possible face of the bat to the ball.* While the bat is descending on the ball, the ball may rise or turn, to say nothing of the liability of the hand to miss; and then the good player has always half the width of his bat, besides its height, to cover the deviation; whereas the cross-player is far more likely to miss, from the least inaccuracy of hand and eye, or twist of the ball.

And would you bring a full bat even to a toss? Would you not cut it to the Off or hit across to the On?

This question tries my rule very hard, certainly;

but though nothing less than a hit from a toss can satisfy a good player, still I have seen the most brilliant hitters, when a little out of practice, lose their wicket or hit a catch from the edge of the bat, by this common custom of hitting across even to a toss or long-hop.

To hit tosses is good practice, for it requires correct timing and quick wrist-play. If you see a man play stiff and "up in a heap," a swift toss is worth trying. Bowlers should practise both toss and tice—now called "Yorkers."

To play tosses, and ground-balls, and hops, and every variety of loose bowling, by the rigid rules of straight and upright play, is a principle the neglect of which has often given the old hands a laugh at the young ones. Often have I been amused to see the wonder and disappointment occasioned when some noted member of a University Eleven, or the Marylebone Club—from whom all expected, of course, the most tremendous hitting "off mere underhand bowling,"—has been easily disposed of by a toss or a ground-ball, yclept a "sneak."

A fast ball to the middle stump, however badly bowled, no player can afford to treat too easily. A ball that grounds more than once may turn more than once; and the bat, though properly

4½ inches wide, is considerably reduced when used across wicket: so *never hit across wicket.* To turn to loose bowling and hit from leg-stump square to the On side with full swing of the body is very gratifying and very effective; and perhaps you may hit over the tent, or, as I once saw, into a neighbour's carriage; but while the natives were marvel-stricken, a good judge will shake his head, and inwardly grieve at folly so triumphant.

Never laugh at bowling which takes wickets. Bowling which is bad, often for that very reason meets with batting which is worse. Nothing shows a thorough player more than playing with caution even badly-pitched underhand bowling.

One of the best judges of the game I ever knew was once offered by a fine hitter a bet that he could not with his underhand bowling make him "give a chance" in half an hour.

"Then you know nothing of the game," was the reply; "I would bowl you nothing but Off tosses, which you must cut; you would not cut those correctly for half an hour, for you could not use a straight bat once. Your bet ought to be,—no chance before so many runs."

Next, as to the *half-volley.* This is the most delightful of all balls to hit, because it takes the right part of the bat, with all the quickness of

its rise or rebound. A half-volley, then, is very generally hit in the air, soaring far above every fieldsman's head; and to know the power of the bat, every hitter should learn so to hit at pleasure. Though, as a rule, *high hits make a low average.* But I am now to speak only of hitting half-volleys along the ground.

Every time you play forcibly at the pitch of a ball, you have more or less of the half-volley; so this is a material point in batting. The whole secret consists partly in timing your hit well, and partly in taking the ball in the right part of the rise, so as to play the ball down without wasting its force against the ground.

Every player thinks he can hit a half-volley correctly along the ground; but if once you see it done by a really brilliant hitter, you will soon understand that such hitting admits of many degrees of perfection. In forward play, or driving, fine hitters seem as if they felt the ball on the bat, and sprung it away with an elastic impulse; and, in the more forcible hits, a ball from one such batsman appears not so much like a hit as a shot from the bat: for, when a ball is hit in the swiftest part of the bat's whirl, and with that part of the bat which gives the greatest force with the least jar, the ball appears to offer no resistance; its

momentum is annihilated by the whirl of the bat, and the two-and-twenty fieldsmen find to their surprise how little ground a fieldsman can cover against true and accurate hitting.

Clean hitting requires a loose arm, the bat held firmly, but not clutched in the hand till the moment of hitting. Clumsy gloves are a sad hindrance—the hit is not half so crisp and smart. The bat must be brought forward, not only by the free swing of the arm working well from the shoulder, but also by the wrist. (Refer to fig. 1, p. 165.) Here is the bat ready thrown back, and wrists proportionally bent; from that position a hit is always assisted by wrist as well as arm. The effect of the wrist alone, slight as its power appears, is very material in hitting; this probably arises from the greater precision and better time in which a wrist-hit is commonly made.

As to hard hitting, if two men have equal skill, of course the stronger man will send the ball farthest. Many slight men drive a ball nearly as far as larger men, because they exert their force in a more skilful manner. The great secret in hard hitting is "to play tall," or to make the most of your height. We have seen a man six feet three inches in height, and of power in proportion, hit a ball tossed to him—not once or

twice, but repeatedly—a hundred yards or more in the air. This, perhaps, is more than any light man could do. But the best man at putting the stone and throwing a weight we ever saw, was a man of little more than ten stone. In this exercise, as in wrestling, the application of a man's whole weight at the proper moment is the chief point, so also in hard hitting.

The whirl of the bat may be accelerated by wrist, forearm, and shoulder: let each joint bear its proper part.

Mr. C. I. Thornton is rightly acknowledged one of the hardest hitters of the present day; indeed, one of the most experienced players says he never saw his equal—that is to say, in general hitting.

Left-handed men have been almost always hard hitters. One reason perhaps is, because they generally can use both arms well; add to this, there is usually a certain square and powerful build that goes to make a left-handed man—witness Lillywhite or Griffith.

With the present style of bowling, which breaks in from Off to leg with a left-handed man, the left-handed man is at a great disadvantage with leg-balls. The reason is that, as almost every leg-ball pitches nearly straight to the wicket, he

cannot form to hit leg as soon as a right-handed man, to whom a leg-ball comes almost straight to the legs, and is perceived in a moment. Felix told us that if Lillywhite changed sides and bowled over the wicket—in which case the ball comes more nearly as it does to a right-handed man—he could easily hit him to the leg: but the old man used to shift sides and say, "Mr. Felix, that side won't do for you."

NUTS FOR STRONG TEETH.—All effective hits must be made with both hands and arms; and, in order that both arms may apply their force, the point at which the ball is struck should be opposite the middle of the body.

Take a bat in your hand, poise the body as for a half-volley hit forward, the line from shoulder to shoulder being parallel with the line of the ball. Now whirl the bat in the line of the ball, and you will find that it reaches that part of its circle where it is perpendicular to the ground—midway between the shoulders; at that moment the bat attains its greatest velocity; so, then alone can the strongest hit be made. Moreover, a hit made at this moment will drive the ball parallel to and skimming the ground. And if, in such a hit, the lower six inches of the bat's face strike the ball,

the hit is properly called "a clean hit," being free from all imperfections. The same may be said of a horizontal hit, or cut. The bat should meet the ball when opposite the body. All good hitters make their hits just at the moment when the ball is opposite the middle of their body. Watch any fine Off-hitter. If he hits to Mid-wicket, his breast is turned to Mid-wicket; if he hits, I mean designedly, to Point, his breast is turned to Point.

Cutting forms no exception: the best cutters turn the body round on the basis of the feet till the breast fronts the ball—having let the ball go most as far as the bails—and then the full power of the hitter is brought to bear with the least possible diminution of the original speed of the ball. This is the meaning of the observation—that fine cutters appear to follow the ball, and at the latest moment cut the ball off the bails; for, if you do not follow the ball, by turning your breast to it at the moment you hit, you can have no power for a fine cut. It makes good "chamber practice" to suspend a ball oscillating by a string: you will thus see wherein lies that peculiar power of cutting which characterises Lockwood, Humphries, and Mr. Grace; as of old, Mr. Felix, Saunders, and Robinson. Robinson cut

so late that the ball often appeared past the wicket.

Clean hitting is a thing to be carefully studied; the player who has never discovered his deficiency in it, had better examine and see whether there is not a secret he has yet to learn.

The Tice.—Safest to block; apt to be missed, because a dropping ball; hard to get away, because on the ground. Drop the bat smartly on the ground, and it will make a run, but do not try too much of a hit. The Tice is almost a full pitch; the way to hit it, Caldecourt used to say, is to go in and make it a full pitch. I cannot advise this for beginners, although Caldecourt was one of the very best of trainers. Going in even to a Tice puts you out of form for the next ball, and creates a dangerous habit.

Ground-balls, and all balls that touch the ground more than once between wickets, though reckoned very easy, are often very dangerous. Sometimes you have three hops, and the last like a good length-ball: at each hop the ball may twist On or Off with the inequalities of the ground; also, if bowled with the least bias, there is much scope for that bias to produce effect. All these peculiarities account for a fact, strange but true, that the best batsmen are often out with the worst

bowling. Bad bowling requires a game of its own, and a game of the greatest care, where too commonly we find the least; because men say it is "only underhand bowling," and "not by any means good lengths." It requires, especially, playing at the ball itself, even to the last inch, and not by calculation of the pitch or rise.

Let me further remark that hitting, to be either free, quick, or clean, must be done by the arms or wrists, and not by the body. The weight of the body may appear to be thrown in by putting down the left leg; but, in reality, the leg comes down after the hit to restore the balance.

Can a man throw his body into a hit at cricket?—About as much as he can hold up a horse with a bridle while sitting on the same horse's back. Both are common expressions; both are at variance with the laws of nature. A man can only hit by whirling his bat in a circle. If he stands with both feet near together, he hits feebly, because in a smaller circle; if he throws his left foot forward, he hits harder, because in a wider circle. A pugilist cannot throw in his body with a round hit; and a cricketer cannot make anything but round hits.

Take it as a rule in hitting, that what is not elegant is not right; for the human frame is

rarely inelegant in its movements when all the muscles act in their natural direction. Many men play with their shoulders up to their ears, and their sinews all in knots; and because they are conscious of desperate exertion, they forget that their force is going anywhere rather than into the ball.

It is often remarked that hard hitting does not depend on a man's strength. No. It depends not on the strength a man has, but on the strength he exerts at the right time, and in the right direction; and strength is exerted in hitting, as in throwing a ball, in exact proportion to the rapidity of the whirl which the bat or hand describes. The point of the bat moves faster in the circle than in any other part, and therefore, did not the jar resulting from the want of resistance place the point of hitting a little higher up, the nearer the end the harder would be the hit. The wrist, however slight its force, acting with a multiplying power, adds greatly to the speed of this whirl.

Hard hitting, then, depends first on the freedom with which the arm revolves from the shoulder, unimpeded by constrained efforts and contortions of the body; next, on the play of the arm at the elbow; thirdly, on the wrists. Observe

any cramped, clumsy hitter, and you will recognise these truths at once. His elbow seems glued to his side, his shoulder stiff at the joint, and the little speed of his bat depends on a twist and a wriggle of his whole body.

Keep your body as composed and easy as the requisite adjustment of the left leg will admit: let your arms do the hitting; and remember the wrists. The whiz that meets the ear will be a criterion of increasing power. Practise hard hitting—that is, the full and timely application of your strength, not only for the value of the extra score, but because hard hitting and correct and clean hitting are one and the same thing. Mere stopping balls and poking about in the blockhole is not Cricket, however successful.

As to a manly style and elegance in batting—watch Daft at the wicket: he just touches the blockhole with the bat to ascertain the line of the wicket, which is the only meaning of taking guard, and then stands up to his full height in a commanding attitude like a man. Mr. Grace does the same; and surely no one can pretend to say that any men in England are more quickly down upon a shooting ball than are these men generally. But look at others—nineteen out of twenty at least: there they stand with bended

knees, half a foot shorter than Nature made them, and without half the reach, the command, or the strength that they ought to have. Some men stand at guard with a long, flat, horizontal back, like cows; some seem to be holding the bat most desperately into the blockhole; some stick out behind so indecently, we wonder they are not ashamed that any one should see them; and almost all are cramped and up in a heap, with their shoulders up to their ears:—in a word, if you want to see a man looking at a deplorable disadvantage to any non-cricketing observer, only see him *in* at cricket.

Need we say that ease and elegance are one; that the limbs must look easy to play easy; and that you never can use your arms and legs to advantage unless you let them move with all the freedom and composure which characterise all the ordinary gestures and movements of life? *Verbum sat.* We commend this observation to the members of the M. C. C., and entreat them, by degrees, to introduce the custom, if not the written law, to put no man into a M. C. C. match who disgraces the Club by attitudes not to be exaggerated even in *Punch.*

One reason that both Mr. Grace and Daft are interesting players is, that they both stand up

like men; they play high—not grubbing about the blockhole, but with full use of all their limbs. No man ever was more indifferent to a shooter, however fast, than Daft.

And here we will venture an opinion, which some will think a paradox—it is because Daft does play high that he is so quick and certain with a shooter. You doubt this, my friends? Very well; then only take your bat in hand, and experiment. Try what quickness of action in dropping down on imaginary shooters you can command; try first standing easy and upright, with right leg straight, and therefore that limb at rest, and most ready to start into sudden action. Next, try the same action with the limb bent, and therefore cramped and crippled; try it when stooping in that awkward posture (alas! too common) which, far from meditating any counter-attack, looks as if the whole soul of the man were intent on nothing more ambitious than to prevent the ball from grovelling into the wicket.

This experiment will convince any one that, with a ball which depends entirely on quickness, the manly attitude is the safer of the two.—We might expatiate on the better sight of the ball, and on the greater readiness in decrying the dangerous length, which sight is improved by holding

up your head like a man and looking down upon the pitch; we might argue from that commanding position which enables you to cover a yard more ground, and therefore to "nip in the bud" or drive away many a would-be shooter by meeting it at the pitch; but we are contented simply to say that playing high is a decided advantage, even with shooters and the lowest balls, and that this style of high play is one secret of Daft's safety with shooting balls.

Some maintain that anything which succeeds is Cricket—but not such Cricket as full-grown men should vote a scientific and a manly exercise; otherwise, to "run cunning" might be Coursing, and to kill sitting, Shooting. A player may happen to win in spite of his awkwardness, and not by virtue of it.

But there is another cogent reason for letting your arms and not your body do the work—namely, that it makes all the difference to your sight whether the level of the eye remains the same, as with a composed and easy hitter, or unsteady and changing, as with a wriggling and a clumsy player. Whether a ball undulates in the air, or whether there is an equal undulation in the line of the eye which regards that ball, the confusion and indistinctness of vision is the

same. As an experiment, look at any distant object, and move your head up and down, and you will understand the confusion of sight to which I allude. The only security of a good batsman, as of a good shot, consists in the hand and eye being habituated to act together. Now, the hand may obey the eye when at rest, but have no such habit when in unsteady motion. And this shows how uncertain all hitting must be, when, either by the movement of the body or other cause, the line of sight is suddenly raised or depressed.

The same law of sight shows the disadvantage of men who stand at guard very low, and then suddenly raise themselves as the ball is coming.

The same law of sight explains the disadvantage of stepping in to hit, especially with a slow dropping ball: the eye is puzzled by a double motion —the change in the level of the ball, and the change in the level of the line of sight.

So much for our theory: now for our experience. Look at Mr. Grace, Mr. Hornby, R. Daft, and all fine players. How characteristic is the ease and repose of their figures—no hurry or trepidation! How little do their heads or bodies move! Bad players dance about, as if they stood on hot iron, a dozen times while the ball is coming, with

precisely the disadvantage that attends an unsteady telescope. "Then you would actually teach a man how to see?" We would teach him how to give his eyes a fair chance. Of sight, as of quickness, most players have enough, if they would only make good use of it.

To see a man wink his eyes and turn his head away is not uncommon the first day of partridge-shooting, and quite as common at the wicket. An undoubting judgment and knowledge of the principles of batting literally improves the sight, for it increases that calm confidence which is essential for keeping your eyes open and in a line to see clearly.

Sight of a ball also depends on a habit of undivided attention both before and after delivery, and very much on health. A yellow bilious eye bespeaks a short innings: so, be very careful what you eat and drink when engaged to play a match. But your sight may be seriously affected when you do not feel actually ill; so take every precaution.

Straight and Upright Play.—To be a good judge of a horse, to have good common-sense, and to hit straight and upright at Cricket, are qualifications never questioned without dire offence.

Yet few, very few, ever play as upright as they might play, and that even to guard their three stumps. To be able, with a full and upright bat, to play well over and to command a ball a few inches to the Off, or a little to the Leg, is a very superior and rare order of ability.

The first exercise for learning upright play is to practise several times against an easy bowler, with both hands on the same side of the handle of the bat. Not that this is the way to hold a bat in play, though the bat so held must be upright; but this exercise of rather poking than playing will inure you to the habit and method of upright play. Afterwards shift your hands to their proper position, and practise slipping your left hand round into the same position, while in the act of coming forward.

But be sure you stand up to your work and close to your blockhole; and let the bowler admonish you every time you shrink away or appear afraid of the ball. Much practice is required before it is possible for a young player to attain that perfect composure and indifference to the ball which characterises the professional. The least nervousness or shrinking is sure to draw the bat out of the perpendicular. As to shrinking from the ball—I do not mean any apprehension

of injury, but there is a certain shrinking which results from a want of knowledge of length or distance, and from an uncertainty as to how the ball is coming, and how to prepare to meet it—nothing distinguishes the professional from the amateur more than the composed and unshrinking posture in which he plays a ball.

Practice alone will prevent shrinking; so encourage your bowler continually to remind you of it. As to practising with a bowler, you see some men at Lord's and the University grounds batting hour after hour, as if Cricket were to be taken by storm. To practise long at one time is positively injurious. For about one hour a man may practise to advantage; for a second hour, he may rather improve his batting even by keeping wicket, or acting long-stop. Anything is good practice for batting which only habituates the hand and eye to act together.

The next exercise is of a more elegant kind, and quite coincident with your proper game. Always throw back the point of the bat, while receiving the ball, to the top of the middle stump, as in figure at page 165; then the handle will point to the bowler, and the whole bat be in the line of the wicket. By commencing in this position, you cannot fail to bring your bat straight and

full upon the ball. If you take up your bat straight, you cannot help hitting straight; but if once you raise the point of the bat across the wicket, to present a full bat for that ball is quite impossible. There is not one player in twenty, even among professionals, whose play does not suffer from neglect of this simple rule.

One advantage of this exercise is, that it may be practised even without a bowler. The path of a field, with ball and bat, are all the appliances required. Place the ball before you, one, two, or more feet in advance, and more or less On or Off, at discretion. Practise hitting with right foot always fixed, and with as upright and full a bat as possible: keep your left elbow up, and always over the ball.

This exercise will teach, at the same time, the full powers of the bat; what style of hitting is most efficacious; at what angle you smother the ball, and at what you can hit clean: only be careful to play in form; and always see that your right foot has not moved before you follow to pick up the ball. Fixing the right foot is alone a great help to upright play; for while the right foot remains behind, you are so completely in a form to present a full bat, that you will rarely play across the ball. Firmness in the right foot

as your fulcrum is also essential to hard hitting, for you cannot exert much strength unless you stand in a firm and commanding position.

Upright and straight hitting, then, requires—first, the point of the bat thrown back to the middle stump as the ball is coming; secondly, the left elbow well up; and, thirdly, the right foot fixed, and near the blockhole.

Never play a single ball without strict attention to these three rules. At first, you will feel cramped and powerless; but practice will soon give ease and elegance, and form the habit not only of all sure defence, but of all certain hitting: for the straight player has always wood enough and to spare in the way of the ball, whereas a deviation of half an inch leaves the cross-player at fault.

When a player hits almost every time he raises his bat, the remark is, What an excellent eye that batsman has! But upright play tends, far more than eye, to certainty in hitting; it is not easy to miss when you make the most of every inch of your bat. But when you trust to the width alone, a slight error produces a miss, and not uncommonly a catch.

The great difficulty in learning upright play consists in detecting when you are playing across.

So, your practice-bowler must remind you of the slightest shifting of the foot, shrinking from the wicket, or declination of your bat. Underhand bowling is more easy to stand up to without nervous shrinking, and slow bowling best reveals every weak point, because a slow ball must be played: it will not play itself. Many stylish players are beaten by slow bowling: some, because they have never been thoroughly grounded in the principles of correct play and judgment of lengths: others, because hitting by rule and not at the ball. System, with scientific players, is apt to supersede sight; so take care that as the mind's eye opens, the natural eye does not shut.

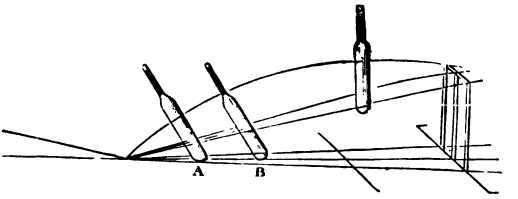
Playing Forward and Back.—And now about length-balls, and when to play forward at the pitch, and when back for a better sight of the rebound.

A length-ball is one that pitches at a puzzling length from the bat. The length cannot be reduced to any exact and uniform measurement, depending upon the delivery of the bowler and the reach of the batsman.

For more intelligible explanation, I must refer you to your friends.

Every player is conscious of one particular length that puzzles him,—of one point between

himself and the bowler, in which he would rather that the ball should not pitch. "There is a length-ball that almost blinds you," said an experienced player at Lord's. There is a length that makes many a player shut his eyes and turn away his head; "a length," says Mr. Felix, "that brings over a man most indescribable emotions." There are two ways to play such balls; to discriminate is difficult, and "if you doubt, you are lost." Let A be the farthest point to which a



good player can reach, so as to plant his bat at the proper angle, at once preventing a catch, stopping a shooter, and intercepting a bailer. Then, should the bat be placed at any point short of A, the ball may rise over the bat if held to the ground, or shoot under if the bat is a little raised. At B the same single act of planting the bat cannot both cover a bailer and stop a shooter. Every ball which the batsman can reach, as at A, may be met with a full bat forward; and, being taken at

the pitch, may either be stopped or driven away with all its rising, cutting, shooting, or twisting propensities undeveloped; if not stopped at A, the ball may rise and shoot in six lines at least; so, if forced to play back, you have six things to guard against instead of one. Still, any ball you cannot cover forward, as at B, must be played back, and nearly in the attitude shown in page 165. This back-play gives as long a sight of the ball as possible, and enables the player either to be up for a bailer or down for a shooter.

More Hard Nuts.—Why do certain lengths puzzle, and what is the nature of all this puzzling emotion? It is a sense of confusion and of doubt. At the moment of the pitch, the ball is lost in the ground; so you doubt whether it will rise, or whether it will shoot—whether it will twist, or whether it will come in straight. The eye follows the ball till it touches the ground: till this moment there is no great doubt, for its course is known to be uniform. I say no great doubt, because there is always some doubt till the ball has passed some yards from the bowler's hand. Our eye cannot distinguish the direction of a ball approaching till we have seen a fair portion of its flight; then only can we calculate what the rest

of the flight will be. Still, before the ball has pitched the first doubt is resolved, and the batsman knows the ball's direction; but when once it touches the ground, the change of light alone (earth instead of air being the background) is trying to the eye. Then, at the rise, recommences all the uncertainty of a second delivery; for the direction of the ball has once more to be ascertained, requiring almost as much time for sight as will sometimes bring the ball into the wicket.

All this difficulty of sight applies only to the batsman; to him the ball is advancing and foreshortened in proportion as it is straight. Hence it follows that bowling of the old-fashioned style, underhand, and without turn of any kind when dead upon the middle stump, is trying to the eye, and not to be made light of. If the ball is rather wide, or if seen, as by Point, from the side, the ball may be easily traced, without confusion, from first to last. It is the fact of an object approaching perfectly straight to you that confuses your sense of distance. A man standing on a railway cannot judge of the nearness of the engine; nor a man behind a target of the approach of the arrow; whereas, seen obliquely, the flight is clear. Hence, a long hop does not puzzle, because there

is time to ascertain the second part of the course or rebound; nor a toss, because one flight only. The tice also, and the half-volley, or any over-pitched balls, are not puzzling, because they may be met forward, and the two parts of the flight reduced to one. Such is the philosophy of forward play; it is intended to obviate the batsman's chief difficulty, which is, with the second part, or, the rebound of the ball.

The following are good rules:—

1. Meet every ball at the pitch by forward play, which you can conveniently cover and fully command forward.

Whatever ball you can play forward, you can play safely—as by one single movement. But in playing the same ball back, you give yourself two things to think of instead of one—stopping and keeping down a bailer, and stopping a shooter.—Every ball is the more difficult to play back in exact proportion to the ease with which it might be played forward.—The player has a shorter sight, and less time to see the nature of the rise; so, the ball crowds upon him, affording neither time nor space for effective play.—Never play back but of necessity; meet every ball forward which you can conveniently cover—I say *conveniently*, because if the pitch of the ball can-

not be reached without danger of losing your balance, misplacing your bat, or drawing your foot out of your ground, that ball should be considered out of reach, and be played back. This rule many fine players of the old school, and Pilch among others, in their eagerness to score, were apt to violate; so, if the ball rose abruptly, they were bowled or caught. There is also danger of playing wide of the ball, if you overreach and do not command the pitch.

Old Clarke used to say, "Whatever you do, mind you never let them play you back. Every man's forward play is a little weak, so every man ought to be driven on to it."—And we greatly suspect that if bowlers had the tact of Clarke or old Lillywhite—ready at all times to pitch up and up to the last inch that back-play would allow—the present style of batting would be considerably modified. However, one reason that bowlers do not pitch well up, to compel forward play, is that so few bowlers are so true to the wicket as to venture to pitch up: for a far-pitched ball, if not straight, is rarely missed, and, even if it is straight, it will sometimes be hit square to the leg.

2. Some say, "When in doubt play back."—Certainly all balls may be played back; but many

it is almost impracticable to play forward. But since the best forward players may err, the following hint, founded on the practice of Fuller Pilch, will suggest an excellent means of getting out of a difficulty:—Practise the art of *half-play;* that is, practise going forward to balls a little beyond your reach, and then, instead of planting your bat near the pitch (which is supposed too far distant to be effectually covered), watch for the ball about halfway, being up if it rises, and down if it shoots. By this half-play, which I learnt from one of Pilch's pupils, I have often saved my wicket when I found myself forward, for a ball out of reach; though before I felt defenceless, and often let the ball pass either under or over my bat.—Still half-play, though a fine saving-clause for proficients, is but a choice of evils, and no practice for learners, as forming a bad habit. By trying too many ways you spoil your game. On the same principle, with slow bowling, if you find you have misjudged and stepped in to a short-pitched ball, stand still and block, or play it quietly as you would do in your ground.

3. Ascertain the extent of your utmost reach forward, and practise accordingly.—The simplest method is to fix your right foot at the crease, and

try how far forward you can conveniently plant your bat at the proper angle; then, allowing that the ball may be covered at about three feet from its pitch, you will see at once how many feet you can command in front of the crease. Pilch could command from ten to twelve feet. Some short men will command ten feet; that is to say, they will safely meet forward every ball which pitches within ten feet of the crease.

There are two ways of holding a bat in playing forward. The position of the hands, standing at guard, will not admit of a long reach forward. But by shifting the left hand behind the bat, the action is free, and the reach unimpeded.

Every learner must practise this shifting of the left hand in forward play; the hand will soon come round naturally. Also, learn to reach forward with composure and no loss of balance.

Play forward evenly and gracefully, with rather an elastic movement. Practice will greatly increase your reach. Take care you do not lose sight of the ball, as many do; and look at the ball itself, not merely at the spot where you expect it to pitch. Much depends on commencing at the proper moment, and not being in a hurry. Especially avoid any catch or flourish in forward play. Come forward, foot and bat together, most evenly and most quietly.

Forward play may be practised almost as well in a room as in a cricket-field—better still with a ball in the path of a field. To force a ball back to the bowler or long-field by hard forward play is commonly called driving; and driving you may practise without any bowler, and greatly improve in balance and correctness of form, and thus increase the extent of your reach, and habituate the eye to a correct discernment of the point at which forward play ends and back play begins. By practice you will attain a power of coming forward with a spring, and playing hard or driving. All fine players drive nearly every ball they meet forward, and this driving admits of so many degrees of strength that sometimes it amounts to quite a hard hit.

"I once," said Clarke, "had thought there

might be a school opened for Cricket in the winter months; for you may drill a man to use a bat as well as a broad-sword." With driving, as with half-play, be not too eager: play forward surely and steadily at first, otherwise the point of the bat will get in advance, or the hit be badly timed, and give a catch to the bowler. This is one error into which the finest forward players have sometimes gradually fallen—a vicious habit, formed from an overweening confidence and success upon their own ground.—Comparing notes lately with an experienced player, we both remembered a time when we thought we could make hard and free hits even off those balls which good players play gently back to the bowler; but eventually a succession of short innings sent us back to safe and sober play.

Sundry other hits are made, contrary to every rule, by players accustomed to one ground or one set of bowlers. Many a public schoolboy has found that a game, which succeeded in the playing-fields, has proved an utter failure when all was new at Lord's, Prince's, or the Oval.

Every player should practise occasionally with professional bowlers; for they look to the principle of play, and point out radical errors even in showy hits. Even Pilch would request a friend

to stand by him in practice, to detect any shifting of the foot or other bad habit. I would advise every good player to take one or two such lessons at the beginning of each season. A man cannot see himself, and will hardly believe that he is taking up his bat across wicket, sawing across at a Draw, tottering over instead of steady, moving off his ground at leg-balls, or playing forward with a flourish instead of full on the ball, and making other mistakes which need but be mentioned to be avoided.

One great difficulty we observed, consists in correct discrimination of length and instantaneous decision. To form correctly as the ball pitches, there is time enough, but no time to spare—time only to act, no time to think. So also with shooting, driving, and various kinds of exercises—at the critical moment all depends not on thought, but on habit. By constant practice, the time for deliberation becomes less and less, till at length we are unconscious of any deliberation at all,—acting as it were by instinct; for the occasion prompts the action. Then, in common language, we "do it naturally," that is, we have formed a habit which is "second nature."

In this sense, a player must form a habit of correct decision in playing forward and back. Till

he plays by habit, he is not safe: the sight of the length must prompt the corresponding movement. Look at Mr. Grace or Daft and this rule will be readily understood; for, with such players, every ball is as naturally and instinctively received by its appropriate movement as if the player were an automaton, and the ball touched a spring: so quickly does forward play or back play, and the attitude for off-cut or leg-hit appear to coincide with, or rather to anticipate, each suitable length. All this quickness, ease, and readiness marks a habit of correct play; and the question is, how to form such a habit.

All the calmness or composure we admire in proficients results from a habit of playing each length in one way, and in one way only. To attain this habit, measure your reach before the crease, as you begin to practise with a bowler; and make a mark visible to the bowler, but not such as will attract your own eye.

Having fixed such a mark, let your bowler pitch, as nearly as he can, sometimes on this side of the mark, sometimes on that. After every ball, you have only to ask, which side? and you will have demonstrative proof whether your play has been right or wrong. Let your bowler vary his pace and sometimes give a dropping ball, or

one which reaches the ground in a curve: this will put you on your guard against that ocular delusion of which Clarke and Lillywhite used to take so much advantage. Constant practice, with attention to the pitch, will habituate your eye to lengths, and enable you to decide in a moment how to play.

For my own part, I used rarely to practise without this mark: it enabled me to ascertain, by referring to the bowler, where any ball had pitched. And, to know at a glance the exact length of a ball, is not quite as easy to the batsman as to the bowler; and, without practising with a mark, you may remain a long time in error.

After a few days' practice, you will become as certain of the length of each ball, and of your ability to reach it, as if you actually saw the mark, for you will carry the measurement in "your mind's eye."

So far, well: you have gained a perception of lengths and distance; the next thing is, to apply this knowledge. Therefore, bear in mind, you have a HABIT TO FORM. No doubt, many will laugh at this philosophy. Lockwood does not know the "theory of moral habits," I dare say; but he knows well enough that wild practice makes wild

play. How should you like to be doomed to play with some mischievous fellow, always tickling your elbow, and making you spasmodically play forward when you ought to play back, or hit round or cut, when you ought to play straight? Precisely such a mischievous sprite is a bad habit. Till you have got rid of him, he is always liable to come across you and tickle you out of your innings: all your resolution is no good. Habit is a much stronger principle than resolution. Accustom the hand to obey sound judgment, otherwise it will follow its old habit instead of your new principles.

To borrow an admirable illustration from Plato, which Socrates' pupil remarked was rather apt than elegant,—"While habit keeps up itching, man can't help scratching." And what is most remarkable in bad habits of play is, that, long after a man thinks he has overcome them, by some chance association, the old trick appears again, and a man feels (oh! fine for a moralist!) *one law in his mind and another law in his members* —or, rather, he feels a latent spring in him ever liable to be touched, and to disturb all the harmony of his cricketing economy.

Having, therefore, a habit to form, take the greatest pains that you methodically play forward

to the over-pitched, and back to the under-pitched ball. My custom was, the moment the ball pitched to say audibly to myself "forward," or "back." By degrees I was able to calculate the length sooner and sooner before the pitch, having, of course, the more time to prepare; till, at last, no sooner was the ball out of the bowler's hand, than ball and bat were visibly preparing for each other's reception. After some weeks' practice, forward and back play became so easy, that I ceased to think about it. The very sight of the ball naturally suggested the appropriate movement; in other words, I had formed a habit of correct play in this particular.

For, without the habit aforesaid, a man will often shut his eyes, and remove his right fingers, as if the bat were hot, and then look behind him and find his wicket down.—A second will advance a foot forward, feel and look all abroad, and try to seem unconcerned, if no mischief happens.—A third will play back with the shortest possible sight of the ball, and hear his stumps rattle before he has time to do anything.—A fourth will stand still, a fixture of fuss and confusion, with the same result; while a fifth will go gracefully forward, with straightest possible bat and the most meritorious elongation of limb, and the ball will pass

over the shoulder of his bat, traverse the whole length of his arms and back and colossal legs, tipping off the bails, or giving a chance to the wicket-keeper.—Then, as Poins says of Falstaff, "The virtue of this jest will be the incomprehensible lies that this same fat rogue will tell us." For, when a man is out by this simple error in forward or backward play, it would take a volume to record the variety of his excuses.

THE SHOOTER.—This is the surest and most destructive ball that is bowled. Stopping shooters depends on correct position, on a habit of playing at the ball and not losing it after the pitch, and on a quick discernment of lengths.

The great thing is decision: to doubt is to lose time, and to lose time is to lose your wicket. And this decision requires a correct habit of forward and back play. But since prevention is better than cure, by meeting at the pitch every ball within your reach, you directly diminish the number not only of shooters, but of the most dangerous of all shooters, because of those which afford the shortest time to play. But, supposing you cannot cover the ball at the pitch, and a shooter it must be, then—

The first thing is, to have the bat always

pointed back to the wicket, as in fig. 1, page 165: thus you will drop down on the ball, and have all the time and space the case admits of. If the bat is not previously thrown back, when the ball shoots the player has two operations,—the one to put the bat back, and the other to ground it: instead of one simple drop alone.

The second thing with a shooter is, to prepare for back play with the first possible intimation that the ball will require it. A good player descries the enemy, and drops back as soon as the ball is out of the bowler's hand.

The third—a golden rule for batsmen—is: expect a good length to shoot, and you will have time if it rises: but if you expect it to rise, you will be too late if it shoots.

THE BAIL BALL.—First, the attitude is that of fig. 1. The bat thrown back to the bails is indispensable for quickness: if you play a bailer too late, Short Slip is placed on purpose to catch you out; therefore watch the ball from the bowler's hand, and drop back on your wicket in good time. Also, take the greatest pains in tracing the ball every inch from the hand to the bat. Look hard for the twist, or a "break" will be fatal. To keep the eye steadily on the ball,

and not lose it at the pitch, is a hint even for experienced players; so make this the subject of attentive practice.

The most difficult of all bailers are those which ought not to be allowed to come in as bailers at all—those which should be met at the pitch. Such over-pitched balls give neither time nor space, if you attempt to play them back.

Every length-ball is difficult to play back, just in proportion to the ease with which it could be covered forward. A certain space, from nine to twelve feet before the crease, is to a practised batsman so much *terra firma*, whereon pitching every ball is a safe stop or score. Practise with the chalk-mark, and learn to make this *terra firma* as wide as possible.

THE DRAW is so called, I suppose, because, when properly made, there is no draw at all. Look at fig. 2. The bat is not drawn across the wicket, but hangs perpendicularly from the wrists, though the wrists of a good player are never idle; but bring the bat to meet the ball a few inches, and the hit is the natural angle formed by the conflicting forces.

The Draw is the spontaneous result of straight play about the two leg-stumps: for if you begin,

as in fig. 1, with point of bat thrown back true to middle stump, you cannot bring the bat straight to meet a leg-stump ball without the line of the bat and the line of the ball forming an angle in

Fig. 2.

crossing each other; and by keeping your wrists well back, and giving a clear space between body and wicket, the Draw will follow of itself. The proof is that very straight players, like Hearne, could not help drawing some balls.

The bat must not be purposely presented edgeways in the least degree. Draw a full bat from the line of the middle stump to meet a leg-stump ball; and, as the line of the ball must take a very acute angle, you will have the benefit of a hit without lessening your defence. Some say, "A Draw is very dangerous with a ball that would hit the leg-stump;" but only when attempted in the wrong way—for, how can a full bat increase your danger? The hit before the legs is generally far more useful; but when the ball breaks in late and with a left-handed batsman (or to a right-handed with a left-handed bowler) the Draw helps a man out of many a difficulty.

Draw or Glance from Off-stump.—Every ball played from two off-stumps, by free play of wrist and left shoulder well over, should go away among the Slips. Play hard on the ball; the ball must never hit a dead bat; and every so-called block, from off-stumps, must be a hit.

Commence, as always, from fig. 1; stand close up to your wicket; weigh on pivot-foot; balance-foot ready to come over as required. This is the only position from which you can command the off-stump.

Bear with me, my friends, in dwelling so much

on this Off-play. Many fine cutters could never in their lives command off-stump with a full and upright bat. Whence come the many misses of off-hits? Observe, and you will see; it is because the bat is slanting, or it must sweep the whole space through which the ball could rise.

By standing close up, and playing well over your wicket with straight bat, and throwing, by means of left leg, the body forward over a ball rising to the off-stump, you may make an effectual hit from an off-bailer without lessening your defence; for how can hard blocking, with a full bat, be dangerous? All that is required is straight play and a free wrist, though certainly a tall man has here a great advantage: and a tall man's game is one of itself, as regards off-balls. No one but a tall man could hit off in front of the Point like Mr. Grace.

A Free Wrist.—Without wrist-play there can be no good style of batting. Do not be puzzled about "throwing your body into your hit." Absurd, though with straight hits a step adds considerably to your energy. Suspend a ball, oscillating by a string from a beam; keep your right foot fixed, and use the left leg to give the time and command of the ball and to adjust

the balance, and you will soon learn the power of the wrists and arms. Also, use no heavy bats; 2 lbs. 2 oz. is heavy enough for any man who plays with his wrists. The wrist has, anatomically, two movements—the one up and down, the other from side to side; and to the latter power, by much the least, the weight of the bat must be proportioned.

THE OFF-HIT, here intended, is made with upright bat, where the horizontal cut was dangerous or uncertain. It may be made with any off-ball, one or two feet wide of the wicket. The left shoulder must be well over the ball, and this can only be effected by crossing left leg over, as in fig. 3, p. 211. This, one of the best players agrees, is a correct hit, provided the ball be pitched well up—otherwise he would apply the Cut: but the Cut serves only when a ball rises, and I am unwilling to spare one that comes in near the ground.

This upright Off-hit, with left leg crossed over, may be practised with a bat and ball in the path of a field. You may also devise some "chamber practice" without any ball, or with a soft ball suspended—not a bad indoor exercise in cold weather. When proficient, you will find that

you have only to hit at the ball, and the balance-foot will naturally cross over and adjust itself.

In practising with a bowler, I have often fixed a fourth stump about six inches from off-stump, and learnt to guard it with upright bat. *Experto crede*, a tall man may learn to sweep, with almost an upright bat, balls as much as two feet to the Off. But this is a hit for balls requiring back-play: the players call this "Cutting with the left leg."

COVER-HIT is the hit for over-pitched Off-balls. Come forward hard to meet an Off-ball; and then as your bat moves in one line, and the ball meets it in another, the result will be Cover-hit. By no means turn the bat: a full face is not only safe, but effective.

With all Off-hits, beware of the bias of the ball to the Off, and play well over the ball—very difficult for young players. Never think about what Off-hits you can make, unless you keep the ball safely down.

The fine square leg-hit is similar to cover-hit, though on the other side. To make cover-hit clean, and not waste power against the ground, you must take full advantage of your height, and play the bat well down on the ball from your hip;

timing nicely, eye still on the ball, and inclining the bat neither too little nor too much.

THE FORWARD CUT, a name by which I would distinguish another Off-hit, is a hit which used to

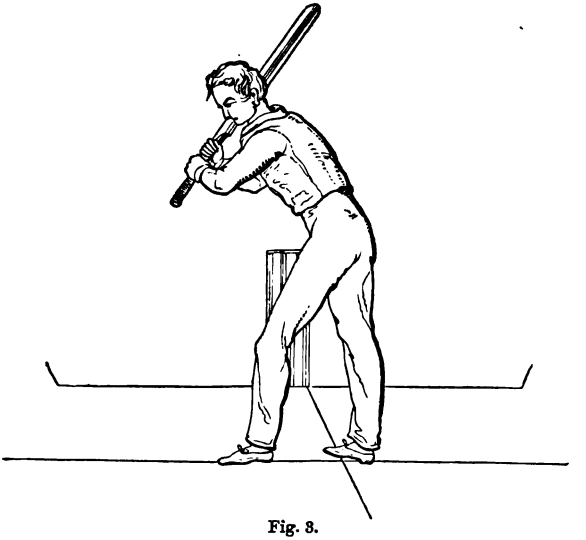


Fig. 3.

be made beautifully by Mr. Felix, who calls it the "Forward Lounge;" as also by Mr. Grace, Mr. Yardley, Mr. A. Lubbock, and Charlwood, and indeed especially by the Nottingham men, who, Clarke thought, "hit all round them"

better than men of any other country (see fig. 3). The figures being foreshortened as seen by the bowler, the artist unwillingly sacrifices effect to show the correct position of the feet. This hit may be made from balls too wide and too low for the backward Cut. Cross the left leg over, watch the ball from its pitch, and stride up towards the pitch on the principle of leg-hitting, and you may make Off-hits from balls low, or Cut balls high (unless very high, and then you have time to drop the bat), with more commanding power than in any other position. Some good players do not like this crossing of left foot, preferring the Cutting attitude of fig. 4; but I know, from experience, that there is not a finer or more useful hit in the field: for, if a ball is some two feet to the Off, it matters not whether over-pitched or short-pitched; the same position, rather forward, equally applies.

The Forward Cut sends the ball between Point and Middle-wicket, an open part of the field, and even to Long-field sometimes—no little advantage. Also, it admits of much greater quickness; you may thus intercept forward what you would be too late to cut back.

To learn it, fix a fourth stump in the ground, one foot or more wide to the Off; practise, care-

fully keeping right foot fixed, and crossing left over, and preserve the cutting attitude, requiring of your bowler Off-balls short-pitched; and thus this most brilliant hit is easily acquired.

When you play a ball Off, do not lose your balance and stumble awkwardly one foot over the other; but end in good form, well on your feet. Even good players commit this fault; also, in playing back, some players look as if they would tumble over their wicket.

THE CUT is generally considered the most delightful hit in the game. The Cut proper is made by very few, being less suitable to overhand bowling. Many make Off-hits, but few "cut from the bails between Short-slip and Point with a late horizontal bat—Cutting, never by guess but always by sight, at the ball itself; the Cut applying to rather short-pitched balls, not actually long-hops, and that not being properly a Cut which is in advance of the point."

The attitude of Cutting is faintly given (because foreshortened) in fig. 4. This represents a cut at rather a wide ball; and a comparison of figs. 3 and 4 will show that with rather wide Off-balls the Forward Cut is the better position; for you more easily intercept balls before they are

out of play. Right leg would be thrown back, rather than advanced, were the ball nearer the wicket. Still, the attitude is exceptional. Look at the other figures, and the cutter alone will

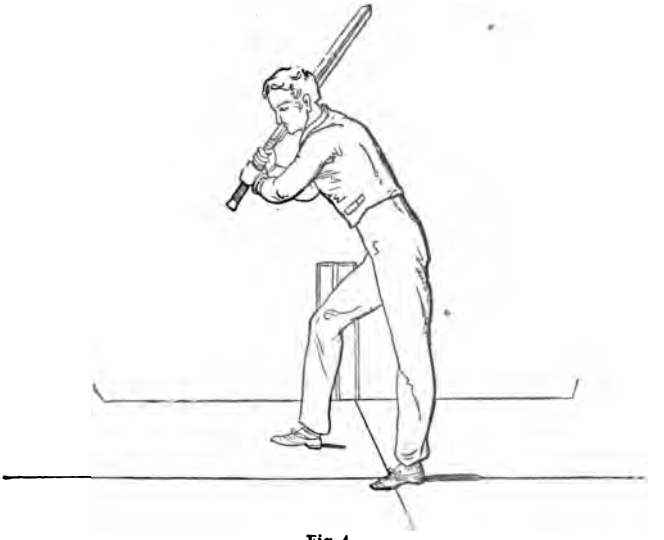


Fig. 4.

appear with right foot shifted. Compare fig. 1 with the other figures, and the change is easy, in a change in left foot alone; but compare it with the cuts (figs. 4 and 5), and the whole position is reversed: right shoulder advanced, and right foot shifted.

There is no ball that can be cut which may not be hit by one of the other Off-hits already mentioned; and with far greater certainty, though not with so brilliant an effect. Each virtue, even

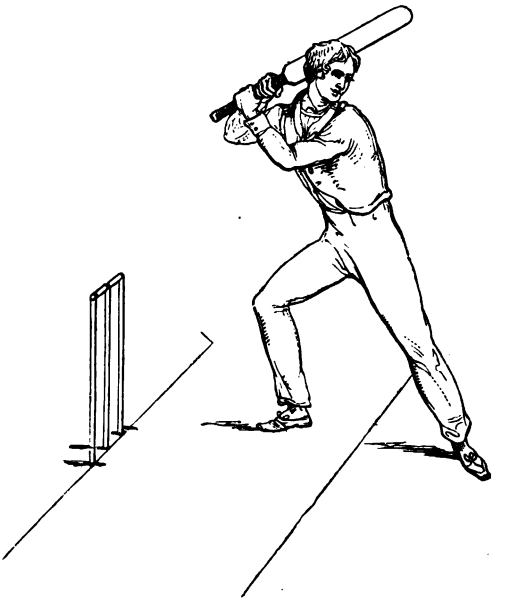


Fig. 5.

in Cricket, has its excess; fine Leg-hitters are apt to endanger the leg-stump, fine Cutters the Off. Fine Leg-hitters having learnt a good Off-hit, have been known at once to lose their leg-hitting. For, the Cutter must begin to take up

his altered position so soon, that the idea must be running in his head almost while the ball is being delivered; then, the first impulse brings the bat at once out of all defensive and straight play. Right shoulder involuntarily starts back, and, if at the wrong kind of ball, the wicket is exposed, and all defence at an end. But with long-hops there is time enough to Cut; the difficulty is with good balls, and to Cut them, not by guess, but by sight. Fig. 5 represents a cut at the ball nearer the wicket, the right foot being drawn back to gain space.

So much for the abuse of Cutting. If the ball does not rise, there can be no Cut, however loose the bowling; though, with the other Off-hits, two or three might be scored. The most winning game is that which plays the greatest number of balls—an art in which Mr. W. G. Grace is pre-eminent. Still, a first-rate player should have a command of every hit; a bowler may be pitching uniformly short, and the balls may be rising regularly: in this case, every one would like to see a good Cutter at the wicket.

To learn the Cut, suspend a ball from a string and a beam, oscillating backwards and forwards; place yourself as at a wicket, and experimentalise. You will find:—

1. You have no power in Cutting, unless you Cut late—"off the bails:" then only can you use the point of your bat.

2. You have no power, unless you turn on the basis of your feet, and front the ball; your back being almost turned upon the bowler, at the moment of cutting.

3. Your muscles have very little power in Cutting quite horizontally, but very great power in Cutting down on the ball.

This agrees with the practice of the best players. Mr. Grace never Cuts but by sight; and since, when the eye catches the rise of a good-length ball, not a moment must be lost, his bat is thrown back just a little—an inch or two higher than the bails (he stoops a little for the purpose)—and the bat is dropped on the ball in an instant, by play of the wrist alone. Thus does he obtain his peculiar power of Cutting even fair length-balls by sight.

Lord Frederick Beauclerk found fault with Mr. Felix's picture of "The Cut," saying it implied force from the whirl of the bat; whereas a Cut should proceed from wrist alone, descending with bat in hand. "Excuse me, my Lord," said Mr. Felix; "that's not a Cut, but only a *pat*." The said *pat*, or wrist-play, I believe to be the only

kind of Cutting by sight, for good length-balls.

To encourage elegant play, and every variety of hit, we may practise each kind of Cut, both Lord Frederick's *pat* and Mr. Felix's Off-hit, and the Nottingham Forward Cut, with left leg over; but beware of using either in the wrong place. A man of one hit is easily managed. A good Off-hitter should send the ball, according to its pitch, not to one point only, but to three or four. For Off-balls we have given, Off-play to the slips —Cover-hit—the Nottingham hit more towards middle-wicket—and, the Cut between slip and point: four varieties. Let each have its proper place, till an old player can say, as Fennex said of Beldham, "He hit quick as lightning all round him. He appeared to have no hit in particular: you could never place a man against him; where the ball was pitched, there it was hit away."

LEG-HITTING.—Besides the draw, there are two distinct kinds of leg-hits—one forward, the other back. The forward leg-hit is made, as in fig. 6 (though the left foot is too much turned out), by advancing the left foot near the pitch of the ball, and then hitting down upon the ball with a free arm—the bat being more or less horizontal ac-

cording to the length of the ball. A ball so far pitched as to require little stride of left leg, will be hit with nearly a straight bat: a ball as short as you can stride to, will require nearly a hori-

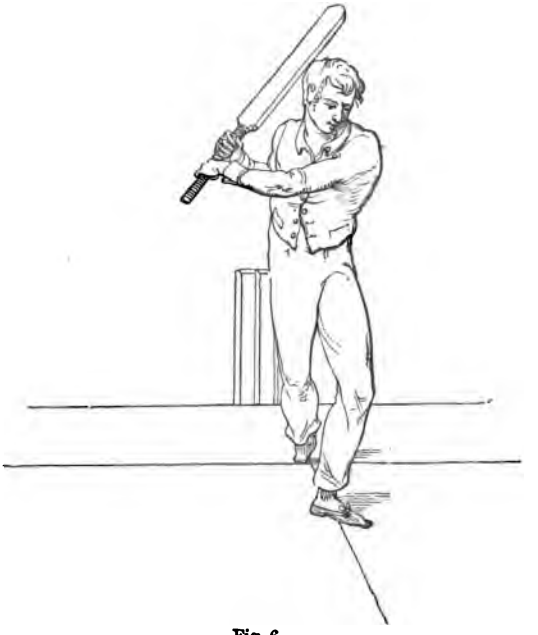


Fig. 6.

zontal bat. The ball you can reach with straight bat, will go off on the principle of the cover-hit—the more square the better. But when a ball is only just within reach, by using a horizontal bat,

you know where to find the ball just before it has risen; for your bat covers the space about the pitch. If you reach far enough, even a shooter may be picked up; and if a few inches short of the pitch, you may have all the joyous spring of a half-volley. The better pitched the bowling, the easier is the hit, if the ball be only a little to the leg. In using a horizontal bat, if you cannot reach nearer than about a foot from the pitch, sweep your bat through the line in which the ball should rise. Look at fig. 7, p. 225. The bat should coincide with or sweep a fair bat's length of that dotted line. But if the point of the bat cannot reach to within a foot of the pitch, that ball must be played back.

THE SHORT-PITCHED LEG-BALL needs no comment, save that, according as it is more or less on the wicket, you may—1. Draw it; 2. Play it by a new hit, to be explained, a Draw or glance outside your leg; 3. You may step back on your wicket to gain space, and play it away to middle On, or cut it round, according to your sight of it.

But in leg-hitting, beware of a "blind swipe," or that chance hit, by guess of where the ball will rise, which some make when the bat cannot properly command the pitch. This blind hit is often

made at a ball not short enough to play by sight back, nor long enough to command forward. Parr, as he said, used to advance left foot as far as he could, and hit "where the ball ought to be." But this he would hardly advise, except you can nearly command the pitch; otherwise, a blind swing of the bat is by no means to be recommended, although the best players are sometimes betrayed into it.

Reader, do you ever make the square hit On? Or, do you ever drive a ball back from the leg-stump to long-field On? Probably not. If you cannot make this hit, you have evidently a faulty style of play. So, practise diligently with leg-balls, till over-pitched balls from two leg-stumps go to long-field On, and balls a little wide of leg-stump go nearly square; and do not do this by a kind of push—much too common—but by a real hit, left shoulder forward.

Also, do you ever draw out of your ground at a leg-hit? Doubly dangerous is this—danger of stumping, and danger of missing easy hits. If you move your pivot foot, you lose that self-command essential for leg-hits. So practise, in your garden or your room, the stride and swing of the bat, till you have learnt to preserve your balance.

Parr's rule for leg-hitting was:—"Keep your right foot firm on your ground; advance the left straight to the pitch, and as far as you can reach, and hit as straight at the pitch as you can, just as if you were hitting to long-field: as the lines of bat and ball form an angle, the ball will fly away square of itself." But Parr had two hits, which he used according to the length of the ball; if he could reach to the pitch, he hit horizontally (a kind of mow or scoop) at the pitch; if he could not reach quite as far, he hit across, to intercept the ball as it rose, about two feet from the pitch.

And this will be a fair occasion for qualifying certain remarks which would appear to form what is aptly called a "toe-in-the-hole" player.

When I spoke so strongly about using the right foot as a pivot, and the left as a balance foot, insisting also on not moving the right foot, I addressed myself not to proficients, but to learners. Such is the right position for almost all the hits on the ball: and this fixing of the foot is the only way to keep a learner in his proper form.

Experienced players—I mean those who have passed through the University Clubs, and aspire to be chosen for the Gentlemen's Eleven of All England—must be able to move each foot on

its proper occasion, especially with slow bowling. Clarke said, "If I see a man set fast on his legs, I know he can't play my bowling." The reason is, as we shall explain presently, that the accurate hitting necessary for slow bowling requires not long reaching, but a short quick action of the arms and wrists, and activity on the legs, to shift the body to suit this hitting in narrow compass.

A practised player should also be able to go in to over-pitched balls, to give effect to his forward play. To be stumped out looks ill indeed; still, a first-rate player should have confidence and coolness enough to bide his time, and then go boldly and steadily in and hit away. If you do go in, take care you go far enough, and as far as the pitch; and only go in to straight balls, for to those alone can you carry a full bat. And never go in to make a free swing of the bat or tremendous swipe. Go in with a straight bat, not so much to hit as to drive or block the ball hard away, or, as Clarke said, "to run the ball down."

Stepping-in only succeeds with cool and judicious hitters, who have some power of execution. All young players must be warned that for any but a most practised player to leave his ground, is decidedly a losing game. The author

has scarcely ever seen any player, however good, who did not lose more than he gained by leaving his ground, for it causes an unsteady habit. Besides, the hits are often stopped, and could as often be as well made from the ground. "Running-in" is a misnomer: the proper way is to *walk in*, with a cool and measured step, and not with a hop, step, and a jump. The ball that requires a *run in*, Carpenter truly observes, is not the length for forward play at all; it should be played back.

Supposing the batsman knows how to move his right foot back readily, then a long-hop to the leg admits of various modes of play, which I feel bound to mention, though not to recommend; for a first-rate player should at least know every hit: whether he will introduce it much or little into his game is another question.

One way to play such balls is to step back with the right foot, and thus gain time and length of hop, and play the ball away, with short action of the arm and wrist, about middle On. This also is good, as making one hit more in your game. Clarke said, that with a ball scarcely wide of your leg, he thought it a good hit: I have, therefore, given a drawing of it on next page. When done correctly, and in its proper place, it is made by an

easy and elegant movement of the wrist, and looks as pretty as the Draw.

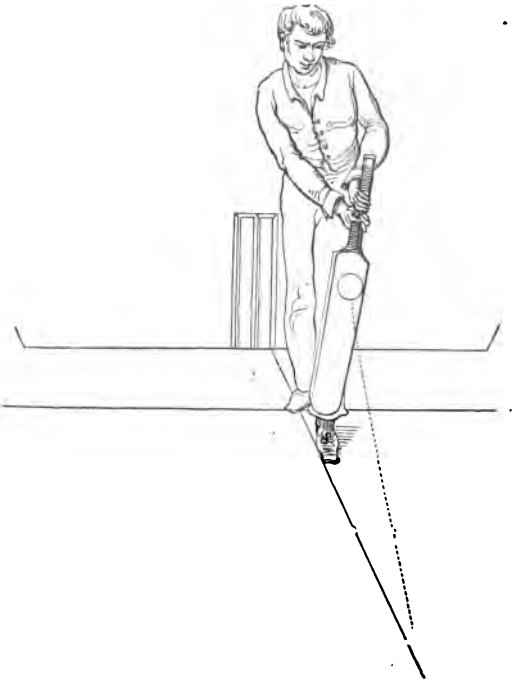


Fig. 7.

"The best way to score from short-pitched leg-balls," writes a very good hitter, "is to make a sort of sweep with the left foot, almost balancing yourself by the toe of the said left foot, and resting

chiefly on the right foot,—at the same time drawing yourself upright and retiring towards the wicket. This of course is all one movement. In this position you make the heel of your right the pivot on which you turn, and move your left (but in a greater circle), so that both preserve the same parallel as at starting, and come round together; and this parallelism is the great secret of a batsman's movement in this hit. This gives you the power of simply playing the ball down, if it rises much, and likewise of hitting hard if it keeps within a foot of the ground.

However, with fast bowling there are almost as many mistakes as runs made by hitting at these short-pitched leg-balls. Pilch, in his latter days, would hardly attempt to hit them.

Lastly, as to leg-balls, remember that almost any one can learn to hit them up (square, especially); the art is to play them down: otherwise, with two men to the leg you have little chance of a long innings. Also, leg-hitting alone is very easy; but to be a good Off-player, and an upright and straight player, and yet to hit to leg freely, is very rare.

CHAPTER X.

HINTS AGAINST SLOW BOWLING.

WHILE our ideas on Slow Bowling were yet in a state of solution, they were all at once precipitated and crystallised into natural order by the following remarks from a valued correspondent:—

"I have said that Pilch was unequalled with the bat, and his great excellence was in *timing* the ball. No one ever mastered Lillywhite like Pilch; because, in his forward play, he was not very easily deceived by that wary individual's repeated change of pace. He played forward with his eye, not only on the pitch, but on the ball itself, being faster or slower in his advance by a calm calculation of time—a point too little considered by some even of the best batsmen of the day. No man hit much harder than Pilch: and, be it observed, hard hitting is doubly hard, in all fair comparison, when combined with that steady posture which does not sacrifice the defence of

the wicket for some one favourite cut or leg-hit. Compare Pilch with good general hitters, who, at the same time, guard their wicket, and I doubt if you can find now from this select class in England one who hits so hard as he did."

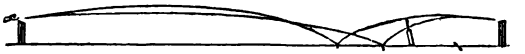
This habit of playing each ball by correct judgment of its time and merits made Pilch one of the few who played old Clarke as he should be played. He played him back all day if he bowled short, and hit him hard all along the ground whenever he overpitched; and sometimes he would go into Clarke's bowling, but not to make a furious swipe, but to "run him down" with a straight bat. This going in to Clarke's bowling some persons thought necessary for every ball, forgetting that "discretion is the better part of" cricket; the consequence was, that many wickets fell from positive long hops. Almost every man who began to play against Clarke—it is the same with Southerton now—appeared to think he was in honour bound to hit every ball out of the field: and every one who attempted it came out saying, "What rubbish!—no play in it!" The truth being that there was a great deal of play in it, for it required real knowledge of the game. There were curved lines to deal with instead of straight ones. "But,

what difference did that make?" We shall presently explain.

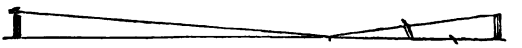
The amusing part was, that this cry of "What rubbish!" had been going on for years, and still the same error prevailed. Experience is not like anything hereditary; the generations of eels do not get used to be skinned, nor do the generations of men get tired of doing the same foolish thing. Each must suffer *propriâ personâ*, and not by proxy. So the gradual development of the human mind against Clarke's bowling was for the most part this:—first, a state of confidence in hitting every ball; secondly, a state of disgust and contempt at what seemed only too easy for a scientific player to practise; and, lastly, a slowly increasing conviction that the batsman must have as much head as the bowler, with patience to play an unusual number of good lengths.

Slow bowling is most effective when there is a fast bowler at the other end. It is very puzzling to alter your time in forward play from fast to slow, and slow to fast, every Over: so, Southerton and Freeman could work well together. A shooter from a slow bowler is sometimes found even more difficult than a shooter from a fast bowler; and this for two reasons: first, because the batsman is made up for slow time and less

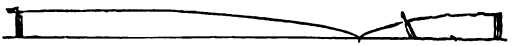
prepared for fast; and, secondly, because a good slow ball is pitched further up, and therefore,



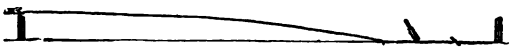
Slow Bail-Balls—Clarke's.



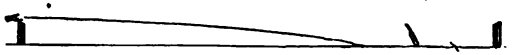
Fast Bail-Balls—Wisden's.



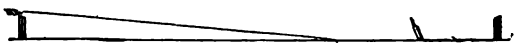
Medium pace—Lillywhite's.



Slow Shooters—Clarke's.



Medium pace Shooters—Lillywhite's.



Fast Shooters—Wisden's.

though the fast ball shoots quicker, the slow ball has a shorter distance to shoot into the wicket.

Compare the several styles of bowling in the preceding diagram. A good length ball, you see, pitches nearer to the bat in proportion to the slowness of its pace. Willsher is not so fast, nor is Southerton as slow, practically, as they respectively appear. With Willsher's straight lines, it

is far easier to calculate where the ball will pitch, than with the curved lines and dropping balls of Southerton; and when Willsher's ball has pitched, though its pace is quicker, the distance it has to come is so much longer, that Southerton, in effect, is not so much slower as he appears. From this diagram it appears that the slower the bowling the nearer it may be pitched, and the less the space the bat can cover; also, the more difficult is the ball to judge; for the curved line of a dropping ball is very deceiving to the eye.

In speaking of the bowling of Southerton and others of his stamp, men commonly imply that the slowness is its only difficulty. Now, a ball cannot be more difficult for hand or eye because it moves slowly. No; the slower the easier; but the difficulty arises from the following qualities, wholly distinct from the pace, though certainly it is the slowness that renders those qualities possible:—

1st. The lengths of slow bowlers are more accurate.

2ndly. They can vary their pace unobserved, without varying their action or delivery.

3rdly. More of their balls will hit the wicket.

4thly. A slow ball must be played: it will not play itself.

5thly. They can more readily take advantage of each man's weak point.

6thly. Slow bowling admits of more bias.

7thly. The length is more difficult to judge, owing to the curved lines.

8thly. It requires the greatest accuracy in hitting. You must play at the ball with short, quick action where it actually is, and not by calculation of its rise, or where it will be.

9thly. Slow balls can be pitched nearer to the bat, affording a shorter sight of the rise.

10thly. Catches and chances of stumping are more frequent, and less likely to be missed.

11thly. The curved lines and the straightness preclude cutting, and render it dangerous to cross the ball in playing to leg.

One artifice, of any good slow bowler, is this: to begin with a ball or two which might easily be played back; then, with a much higher toss and slower pace, as in the diagram, he pitches a little short of the usual spot. If the batsman's eye is deceived as to the distance, he at once plays forward to a length which is at all times dangerous; and, as it rises higher, the play becomes more dangerous still.

The difficulty of "going in" to such bowling as Southerton's depends on this:—

The bat being only four inches and a quarter wide, you have only about two inches to spare for the deviation of your hit; if, therefore, while you are in the act of hitting, the ball turns more than about two inches, the truest hitter possible must miss.

The obvious conclusion from these facts is—1st. That you can only go in safely to such balls as are straight; otherwise, you cannot present a full bat: and, only when you can step right up to the pitch of the ball; otherwise, by a twist it will escape you; and slow balls turn more than fast in a given space. 2ndly. You can only go into such lengths as you can easily and steadily command: a very long step, or any unusual hurry, will hardly be safe with only the said two inches of wood to spare.

Now the question is, with what lengths, against such bowling as Southerton's, can you step in steadily and safely, both as far as the pitch, and with full command of hand and eye? Remember you cannot begin your step until you have judged the length; and this, with the curved line of a slow dropping ball, you cannot judge till within a little of its grounding; so, the critical time for decision and action is very brief, and, in that brief space, how far can you step secure of all

optical illusions, for the bowler can deceive you by varying both the pace and the curve of his ball?—Go and try. Again, when you have stepped in, where will you hit? On the ground, of course, and straight. And where are the men placed? Besides, are you aware of the difficulty of interchanging the steady game with right foot in your ground, with that springy and spasmodic impulse which characterises this "going-in?" "The difficulty is to keep your temper, and not to go in with a wrong ball."

This, I believe, is indeed a difficulty—a much greater difficulty than is commonly imagined. My advice to all players who have not made a study of the art of going-in, and have not fully succeeded on practising days, is, by no means to attempt it in a match. They will find Southerton, or any good slow bowler, too much for them. It is not so easy as it appears. "But, supposing I should stand out of my ground, or start before the ball is out of the bowler's hand?" Why, with an unpractised bowler, especially if in the constrained attitude of the overhand delivery, this manœuvre has sometimes succeeded in producing threes and fours in rapid succession. But Southerton would have pitched over your head, or would send in a quick ball a little wide, and

you would be stumped; and Willsher would probably drop the ball short; or he might with advantage send a fast toss about the height of your shoulder, and, as you would be prepared to play perfectly straight at the pitch, you would hardly raise your bat in time to keep a swift toss out of the wicket-keeper's hands.

The difficulty of curvilinear bowling is this:—

1st. As in making a catch, every fieldsman finds that, in proportion as the ball has been hit up in the air, it is difficult to judge where to place himself: by the same law of sight, a fast ball that goes almost point-blank to the pitch, is far easier to judge than a slow ball that descends in a curve.

2ndly. As the slow ball reaches the ground at a greater angle, it must rise higher in a given space; so, if the batsman misjudges the pitch of a slow ball by a foot, he will misjudge the rise to a greater extent than with a fast ball, which rises less abruptly. Hence, playing forward is less easy with slow bowling than with fast.

3rdly. As to timing the ball, all the eye can discern in a body moving directly towards it, is the angle with the ground: to see the curve of a dropping ball you must have a side view. The man at Point can see the curve clearly; but not

so the batsman. Consequently, the effect of the curve is left out in the calculation of the hit, and the exact time of the ball's approach is, to that extent, mistaken. Every one knows the difficulty of making a good half-volley hit off a slow ball, because the timing is so difficult. Great speed without a curve is less puzzling to the eye than a curvilinear movement, however slow. It were odd, indeed, if it were harder to hit a slow than a fast ball. No. It is the curve that makes difficult what of its pace alone would be easy. All forward play, with slow bowling, is beset with the great difficulty allowing of the curve.

And what style of play does this suggest? To fix the right foot as for fast bowling, and play with long reach forward, does not answer. You must be quick on your feet, and by short quick action of the arms, hit the ball actually as it is, and not as you calculate it will be a second later.

Again, as to Cutting, or in any way crossing, these dropping or curvilinear balls. As a slow ball rises twice as much in a given space as a fast ball, of course the chances are greater that the bat will not cover the ball at the point at which, by anticipation, you Cut. If you Cut at a fast ball, the height of its rise is nearly uniform, and

its course a straight line: so, most men like very fast bowling, because, if the hand is quick enough, the judgment is not easily deceived, for the ball moves nearly in straight lines. But, in Cutting or in crossing a slow ball, the height of the rise varies enough to produce a mistake while the bat is descending on the ball.

Once more, in playing at a ball after its rise, a safe and forcible hit can only be made in two ways. You must either meet the ball with full and straight bat, or Cut horizontally across it. Now, as slow balls generally rise too high for a hard hit with perpendicular bat, you are reduced generally to the difficulties of Cutting or back play. Add to all this, that the bias from the hand and from the inequalities of the ground is much greater with a slow bowler; also that a catch resulting from a feeble hit, and the ball spinning off the edge of the bat, remains commonly so long in the air that every fieldsman can cover double his usual quantity of ground, and then we shall cease to wonder that the best players cannot score fast and safely off accurate slow bowling.

CHAPTER XI.

A CHAPTER ON BOWLING.

BOWLING consists of two parts: there is the mechanical part, and the intellectual part. First, you want the hand to pitch where you please, and then the head to know where to pitch according to the player.

To Learn the Art of Bowling.—1. First, consult with some great bowler, and fix on one, and one only, plan of holding the ball, manageable pace, and general style of delivery. Consult and experiment till you have chosen the style that suits the play of your muscles and your strength. If you choose a violent and laborious style, you will certainly become tired of it; but a style within your strength will be so delightful that you will be always practising.

Secondly, having definitely chosen one form and style of bowling, the next thing is to fix it and form it into a habit: for, on the law of Habit

a bowler's accuracy entirely depends. To form a steady habit of bowling, the nerves and muscles being a very delicate machinery, you must be careful to use them in one way, and one way only; for then they will come to serve you truly and mechanically; but, even a few hours spent in loose play—in bowling with few steps or many, or with a new mode of delivery—will often establish conflicting habits, or call into action a new set of muscles, to interfere with the muscles on which you mainly depend. Many good players (including the most destructive of the Gentlemen's Eleven!) have lost their bowling by these experiments: many more have been thrown back when near perfection. Therefore,

2. Never bowl a single ball but in your chosen and adopted form and style—with the same steps, and with the ball held in the same way. "If these seem small things, habit is not a small thing." Also, never go on when you are too tired to command your muscles; else you will be twisting yourself out of form, and calling new and conflicting muscles into action. Practise a little, and often. If you over-fatigue the muscles, you spoil their tone for a time. Bowling, as we said of batting, must become a matter of habit; and habits are formed by frequent repetition.

Let the bowlers of our public schools resolve to bowl, if it be but a dozen balls, every day, wet or fine. Intermission is very prejudicial.

As to Pace, if your strength and stature is little, your pace cannot probably be fast. Be contented, therefore, with being rather a slow bowler. By commencing slowly, if any pace is in you, it will not be lost; but by commencing fast, you will spoil all.

3. Let your carriage be upright, though easy; and start composedly from a state of perfect rest. Let your steps, especially the last, be short, and, for firm foothold and to avoid shaking yourself or cutting up the ground, learn to descend not on the heel, but more on the toe and flat of the foot, and so as to have both feet in the line of the opposite wicket. For,

4. A golden rule for straight bowling is to present, at delivery, a full face to the opposite wicket; the shoulders being in the same line, or parallel with the crease. That is the moment to quit the ball — a moment sooner and you will bowl wide to the Leg, a moment later and you will bowl wide to the Off. Observe the chief bowlers of note. They deliver just as their front is square with the opposite wicket. They look well at their mark, and bowl before they have swung

too far round for the line of sight to be out of the line of the wicket. Observe, also, bad bowlers, and you will see a uniformity in their deviation: some bowl regularly too much to the On; others as regularly to the Off. Then, watch their shoulders; and you will recognise a corresponding error in their delivery. The wonder is that such men should ever bowl straight.

5. Adopt a run of from five to seven yards. Let your run be quite straight; not from side to side, still less crossing your legs as you run. A bowler must acquire a certain mechanical swing, with measured steps and uniform action and carriage of the body, till at length, as with a gun, hand and eye naturally go together. In rowing, if you look at your oar, you cut crabs. In skating, if you look at the ice and think of your steps, you lose the freedom and the flow of your circles. So, with bowling, having decided on your steps and one mode of delivery, you must practise this alone, and think more of the wicket than of your feet or your hand.

6. "Practise," said old Lillywhite, "both sides of the wicket. To be able to change sides is highly useful when the ground is worn, and it often proves puzzling to the batsman."

7. Hold the ball in the fingers, not in the

palm, and always the same way. If the tips of the fingers touch the seam of the ball, it will assist in the spin. The little finger "guides" the ball in the delivery.

8. The essence of a good delivery is to send the ball forth rotating, or turning on its own axis. The more spin you give the ball, the better the delivery; because then the ball will twist, rise quickly or cut variously, the instant it touches the ground. This spin must not proceed from any conscious action of the fingers, but from some mechanical action of the arm and wrist. Clarke was not conscious of any attempt to make his ball spin or twist: a certain action had become habitual to him. He might endeavour to increase this tendency sometimes; but no bowling could be uniform that depended so much on the nerves, or on such nice feeling as this attention to the fingers would involve.

To assist the spin of the ball, a good bowler will not stop short, but will rather follow the ball, or give way to it, after delivery, for one or two steps. Some bowlers even continue the twisting action of the hand after the ball has left it.

Bowlers may sometimes be irremediably spoilt by overwork. There were few better bowlers at

one time than H. H. Stephenson; but after a hard season at Oxford, he lost all sensitiveness in his fingers' ends, and could no longer drop the ball, in delivery, at the right moment. This was his own account of his falling off.

But though not irremediably injured, all bowlers lose the spin and precision of their bowling by overwork. A good bowler should be very careful of himself, and not play too many matches,—one a week is quite enough,—and not to fatigue himself, by batting or otherwise, before bowling in a match. We have known a bowler spoilt for the time by a severe throw to stop at the wicket, also by having to strain and reach, or violently to run after a ball, but more especially by a long innings. Old Lillywhite could do far more with the bat than men were aware of; and in the last innings of the match, when his bowling was done, and his side were in difficulties, he has astonished people with the stand he would make at the wicket. Yet he persisted in putting himself in last; and one who knew him best said that he really believed that Lillywhite avoided making runs, or, at all events, took less pains than others, for fear of spoiling his bowling.

But as to playing too many matches, that spoils all bowlers. The difference between bowling quite

true and about an inch wide of the stumps, with good batsmen against you, makes all the difference between a chance of a wicket and the giving the very ball that good players like to hit. To a first-rate batsman almost a good ball is the worst ball that you can bowl. And such little inaccuracy is a trifle to a tired bowler.

But if a man can contrive to bowl true, the spin he gives in his delivery alone makes bowling difficult or effective, and this spin requires the utmost energy and freshness of the muscles; it wants vigour down to the fingers' ends. This accuracy and this spin make all the difference between the best bowlers and those of the ordinary parish kind.

9. Commence with a very low delivery. Cobbett, and others of the best bowlers, began underhand. The lower the hand, the more the spin, and the quicker the rise. Unfair or throwing bowlers never have a first-rate delivery. See how easy it is to play a throw, or a ball from a catapult; and simply because the ball has then no spin. Redgate was remarkable for combining spin with pace. In Kent against England, at Town Malling, he bowled the best Over on record. The first ball just grazed Pilch's wicket; the second took his bails; the third ball levelled

Mynn, and the fourth Stearman—three of the best bats of the day.

10. The difficulty is to pitch far enough. Commence, according to your strength, eighteen or nineteen yards, and increase to twenty-two by degrees. Most amateurs bowl long hops.

11. Seek accuracy more than speed: a man of fourteen stone is not to be imitated by a youth of eight stone. Many batsmen like swift bowling; and why? Because the length is easier to judge; the lines are straighter for a cut; the ball wants little accuracy of hitting. Fast bowlers very rarely pitch quite as far even as they might, for this requires much extra power; fast balls twist less in a given space than slow balls, and rarely increase their speed at the rise in the same proportion as slow balls; fast bowling gives fewer chances than the fieldsman can take advantage of, and admits generally of less variety; fewer fast balls are pitched straight, and fewer even of those would hit the wicket. You may find a Freeman or a Willsher who can bring fast bowling under command for one or two seasons; but these are exceptions too solitary to afford a precedent. Even such men were naturally of a fast pace: swiftness was not their chief object. So, study accurate bowling, and let speed come of itself.

Clarke truly said that no low underhand delivery, depending on extent of twist, would succeed. Clarke's bowling twisted but little, and he used at Lord's to bowl from the Pavilion end in order that he might have the slope against him; otherwise, he said, his bowling would turn too much, and the hitter might get before it and hit to the leg.

Clarke's bowling was delivered from the hip, with a little chuck or fling from the hand. Mr. Budd's bowling, against which I have often played, was delivered in the same way; as also was that both of Lambert and of Warsop, of Nottingham; and of Warsop Clarke spoke very highly. The same delivery also had old Tom Walker, of the far-famed Hambledon Club, whose style was described to us by Tom Barker. These bowlers were all at least as good as Mr. Budd, and we can testify that Mr. Budd would bowl through a match with scarcely one ball pitched wide of the wicket, and scarcely one of a bad length either. But modern slows have not even accuracy to recommend them, to say nothing of any other source of difficulty. The twist seems everything; and yet, obviously, the greater the twist the fewer balls would hit the wicket.

Now, the great difficulty of slows, besides being

(as they ought all to be) "on the blind spot," consists in the elevation—that is, in the curve and all the known difficulties of a dropping ball. For, till the ball culminates and begins to descend, you cannot judge its length, and after it has so culminated, you have very little time for decision. The difficulty is to give the ball a good elevation, and at the same time sufficient force; otherwise, the batsman could walk half across the ground to meet it, and do what he liked with it, as with a full toss; and the only delivery which will combine pace with elevation is a high delivery, something like a round-arm delivery, ensuring a spin at the same time. Spin is necessary to make the ball *rise abruptly*, which was the characteristic of Lord Frederick Beauclerk's bowling.

So much for attaining the power of a bowler; next to apply it. Not only practise, but *study*, bowling: to pelt away mechanically, with the same lengths and same pace, is excusable in a catapult, but not in a man. Can your adversary guard leg-stump or off-stump? Can he judge a length? Can he allow for a curve? Can he play well over an off-ball to prevent a catch? Is he sanguine and over-eager? Can he stand drawing out, with balls dropped continually shorter? Can you deceive him with time or

pace? Is he a young gentleman, or an old gentleman?—

"Ætatis cujusque notandi sunt tibi mores."

1. Pitch as near the bat as you can without being hit away. The bowler's chance is to compel back play with the shortest possible sight of the rise.

2. If three good balls have been stopped, the fourth is often destructive, because the batsman's patience is exhausted; so take pains with the fourth ball of the Over.

3. The straighter the ball, the more puzzling to the eye, and the more cramping to the hand of the batsman.

4. Short-pitched balls are not only easier to hit, but have more scope for missing the wicket, though pitched straight.

5. A free leg-hitter may often be put out by placing an extra man On side, and bowling repeatedly at leg-stump—only, do not pitch very far up to him. Short-pitched leg-balls are the most difficult to hit, and produce fewest runs and most catches. By four or five attempts at leg-hitting, a man gains a tendency to swing round, and is off his straight play.

6. Besides trying every variety of length, vary

your pace to deceive the batsman in timing his play; and, above all, practise the same action so as not to betray the change of pace. Also, try occasionally a high dropping ball: few young players, and not all old ones, can allow for a higher curve.

7. Learn to bowl tosses and tices. With a stiff player, before his eye is in, a toss often succeeds; but especially practise high lobs—a most useful variety of ball. In most Elevens there are one or two men with whom good round-hand bowling is almost thrown away.

8. Find out the farthest point to which your man can play forward safely, and pitch just short of that point with every variety of pace and dropping balls. Lillywhite's delight was, by pitching alternately just within and just out of the batsman's reach, "*to catch him in two minds.*" Nixon said he never knew a batsman who could not be drawn gradually on to play beyond his reach, if a fast bowler would drop lengths shorter and shorter.

9. A good under-hand ball of two high curves —that is, a dropping ball rising high—with a twist in from leg-stump, a third man being placed on the On side, is very effective, producing both catch and stumping. This is well worth

trying, with even four men on the On side, if some great player is brought to win a country match.

10. Most men have a length they cannot play. The fault of young bowlers is, they do not pitch far enough: they thus afford too long a sight of the ball. In the School matches and the University matches at Lord's, this is very observable, especially with fast bowlers.

11. The old-fashioned under-hand lobbing, if governed by a good head,—dropping short when a man is coming out, and sometimes tossed higher and sometimes lower,—is a valuable change in most Elevens; but it must be high and accurately pitched, and must have head-work in it. Put long-stop upon the On side, and bring long-slip nearer in; and be sure that your long-fields stand far away.

12. Lastly, the last diagram explains that curvilinear bowling (the effect of a moderate pace with a spin) gives the batsman a shorter sight of the rise than is possible with the straighter lines of swift bowling. A man has nearly as much time to make up his mind and prepare for Willsher as for Southerton, because he can judge Willsher's ball much sooner, and, though the rise is faster, the ball has farther to come in.

THEORY OF BOWLING.—What characterises a good delivery? If two men bowl with equal force and precision, why does the ball come in from the pitch so differently in respect of cutting, twisting, or abrupt rise?

"Because one man gives the ball so much more rotatory motion on its own axis, or so much more spin, or, as we say in billiards, side-stroke, than the other."

A throw, or the catapult which strikes the ball from its rest, gives no spin; hence, the ball is regular in its rise, and easy to calculate.

Cobbett gave a ball as much spin as possible: his fingers appeared wrapped round the ball; his wrist became horizontal; his hand was thrown back at the delivery, and his fingers seemingly unglued joint by joint, till the ball quitted the tips of them last, just as you would spin a top. Cobbett's delivery designed a spin, and the ball at the pitch had new life in it. No bowling so fair, and with so little rough play or violence, ever proved more effective than Cobbett's. Hillyer was entitled to the same kind of praise.

A spin is given by the fingers; also, by turning the hand over in delivering the ball.

A good ball has two motions: one, straight, from hand to pitch; the other, on its own axis.

The effect of a spin on its own axis is best exemplified by bowling a child's hoop. Throw it from you without any spin, and away it rolls; but spin or revolve it against the line of its flight with great power, and the hoop no sooner touches the ground than it comes back to you. So great a degree of spin as this cannot possibly be given to a cricket ball; but you see the same effect in the "draw-back stroke" at billiards. Revolve the hoop with less power, and it will rise abruptly from the ground and then continue its course—similar to that awkward and abrupt rise often seen in the bowling of Clarke among others.

Thirdly, revolve the hoop as you bowl it, not *against*, but *in* the line of its flight, and you will have its tendency to bound expended in an increased quickness forward. This exemplifies a low swimming ball, quickly cutting in and sometimes making a shooter. This is similar to the "following stroke" at billiards, made by striking the ball high and rotating it in the line of the stroke.

Such are the effects of a ball spinning or rotating vertically.

Now try the effect of a spin from right to left, or left to right: try a side-stroke at billiards; the apparent angle of reflection is not equal to the

angle of incidence. So a cricket-ball, with lateral spin, will work from Leg to Off, or Off to Leg, according to the spin.

But why does not the same delivery, as it gives the same kind of spin, always produce the same vertical or lateral effect on a ball? In other words, how do you account for the fact that (apart from roughness of ground) the same delivery produces sometimes a contrary twist? "Because the ball may turn in the air, and the vertical spin become lateral. The side which on delivery was under, may, at the pitch, be the upper side, or the upper side may become under, or any modification of either may be produced in conjunction with inequality in the ground."

With throwing bowling, the ball comes from the ends of the fingers; why, then, does it not spin? Because, unlike Cobbett's delivery, as explained, wherein the ball left the fingers by degrees, and was sent spinning forth, the ball, in a throw, is held between fingers and thumb, which leave their hold at the same instant, without any tendency to rotate the ball. The fairer and more horizontal the delivery, the more the fingers act, the more spin, and the more variety, after the pitch. A high and unfair delivery may be difficult from the height of the rise; otherwise

it is too regular and too easy to calculate for first-rate bowling.

A Little Learning is a Dangerous Thing—and not least at Cricket. The only piece of science I ever hear on a cricket-field is this: "Sir, how can that be? The angle of reflection must always be equal to the angle of incidence."

That a cricketer should have only one bit of science, and that, as he applies it, a blunder, is indeed a pity.

I have already shown that, just as a side-stroke affects the angle from the cushion, so in bowling, the *apparent* angle of reflection is rendered unequal to the angle of incidence by the rotatory motion or spin of the ball, and also by the roughness of the ground.

I have now to explain that this law is equally disturbed in batting also; and by attention to the following observations, many a forward player may learn so to adapt his force to the inclination of his bat as not to be caught out, even although (as often happens, to a man's great surprise) he plays over the ball.

The effect of a moving body meeting another body moving, and that same body quiescent, is very different. To prove this—

Fix a bat *immovably* perpendicular in the ground, and suppose a ball rises to it from the ground in an angle of 45° as the angle of incidence; then, supposing the ball to have no rotatory motion, it will be reflected at an equal angle, and fall nearly under the bat.

But, supposing the bat is not fixed, but brought forcibly forward to meet that ball, then, according to the weight and force of the bat, the natural direction of the ball will be annihilated, and the ball will be returned, perhaps nearly point-blank, not in the line of reflection, but in some other line more nearly resembling the line in which the bat is moved.

If the bat were at rest, or only played very gently forward, the angles of reflection would not be materially disturbed, but the ball would return to the ground in proportion nearly as it rose from the ground; but by playing very hard forward, the batsman annihilates the natural downward tendency of the ball, and drives it forward, perhaps, into the bowler's hands; and then, fancying the laws of gravitation have been suspended to spite him, he walks back disgusted to the pavilion, and says, "No man in England could help being out then. I was as clean over the ball as I could be, and yet it went away as a catch!"

Lastly, as to "being out by luck," always consider whether, with the same adversaries, Mr. Grace or Mr. Daft would have been so put out.

Fortuna fortes adjuvat—men of the best nerve have the best luck; and *nullum numen habes si sit prudentia*—when a man knows as much of the game as we would teach him, he will find there is very little luck after all. Young players should not think of being out by chance: there is a certain intuitive adaptation of play to circumstances, which, however seemingly impossible, will result from observation and experience, unless the idea of chance closes the ears to all good instruction.

One word more, from an old expert:—

"If you are not very successful, but your manager still thinks you had better go on, do not, as some are wont, dash the ball to the ground, and refuse to bowl any more; neither grumble nor growl if you are taken off. How often we hear, 'What stuff to take me off; I should certainly have got him another Over.' Mr. Ward used to tell of an innings he had against Lord Frederick Beauclerk, who would not 'go off,' confident in his powers of removing the giant batsman every succeeding Over. At last Mr. Ward was caught from his bowling—'I knew I

should get you,' said Lord Frederick. 'Yes, but I have scored eighty, my lord,' was Mr. Ward's reply. It is a mistake, we see, made by most eminent bowlers. Again, never sneer at your fieldsmen, if they miss catches. The mischief cannot be remedied. 'Well tried at, old fellow,' if anything be said (which is not advisable), is more conciliating, and likely to produce better results in future, than angry exclamations and unpleasant remarks at any little slip. Sneering begets nervousness, and nervousness is inconsistent with good fielding. Take for granted that every one like yourself is doing his best, and encourage all your field with affability and kindness. Should the umpire call 'No ball,' do not canvass his decision for an instant; if you doubt whether the call arose from your arm being too high or your foot over the crease, ask the Umpire; but whatever your impression of his judgment may be, remember he is the sole judge of fair and unfair play. We have seen, with regret, bowlers whose positions (we speak socially) have not been elevated by language used to umpires on this point. A good cricketer can never thus offend.

"It will be advisable that you make some good bowler your model. It would be invidious to mention professional names, but there are many

good bowlers to study. We will speak of one who is lost to the Cricket sphere. Redgate was for two years the finest bowler in our memory; although he possessed great pace, he combined with it great accuracy—he caused a spin upon the ball while in the air, giving it at one time increased, and at another time decreased speed. He was a very difficult bowler to judge, and when he suddenly lessened the pace of the ball, giving it the curl mentioned, he was most fatal. During the time of excellence we speak of, Redgate was likewise a model as regards the fairness of his delivery. He performed a great feat in a match for Pilch's benefit, Kent *v.* England; in one Over he bowled Stearman, Mynn, and Pilch. For accuracy in bowling, Lord F. Beauclerk was unequalled. He was seen to bowl a single stump down seven times in twelve balls upon the ground in Gorhambury.

"James Grundy, in the Whit-Monday match of the year 1865, bowled Parr and R. Daft eighty-four balls without a run (save two from an Overthrow); but there were many balls quite wide enough to hit, and pitched too short to get wickets if the batsmen did not get runs."

We trust bowlers who honour us by a perusal of these remarks will study accuracy of pitch; it is the basis of good bowling.

CHAPTER XII.

HINTS ON FIELDING.

THE essence of good fielding is, to start before the ball is hit, and to pick up and return straight to the top of the bails, by one continuous action. To become a good fieldsman requires persevering practice, with a "big fellow" to fag for, and one who will expect a little more smartness than is always developed by pure love of the game.

Choose first your bowlers and wicket-keeper, and long-stop; these men you must have, though not worth a run: then if you have any batsmen decidedly superior, you may choose them for their batting, though they happen not to be first-rate fieldsmen. But in most School Elevens, after naming four or five men, among the other six or seven, it is mere chance who scores; so let any great superiority in fielding decide the choice. I remember playing a match in which I had difficulty in carrying the election of a first-rate

fieldsman against a second-rate bat. Now, the said batsman could not certainly be worth above fourteen runs—say seven more than the fieldsman. But the fieldsman, as it happened, made a most difficult catch, put one runner out, and, above all, kept the bowlers in good heart, during an up-hill game, by stopping many hard hits. A bad fieldsman is a loose screw in your machinery; giving confidence to the adversary, and taking the spirit out of his own party. Therefore, let the Captain of an Eleven proclaim that men must qualify by fine fielding; and let him encourage the following exercises:—

Put in two batsmen, whose play is not good enough to spoil, to tip and run. You will then find what very clean fielding is required to save one run, with men determined to try it.

Let every man practise long-stop.

Let every man practise meeting the ball in the right way. How is that?—Why, by running up to the ball, *and not stopping* till you actually meet it. This is the essence of quick fielding: but nearly all men, though they run in, stop before the ball comes.

Long-leg is a fieldsman nearly as essential as a good long-stop. A man who can run and throw well should make a long-leg his forte, and prac-

tise judging distances for a long catch, covering ground both to right and left, neat handling, with allowance for the twist, and especially an arrow-like and accurate return. Nothing is so likely to put the runner out as a swift throw to the hands from a long distance. Aspire to foil the usual calculation, that, at a long distance, the runner can beat the throw.

Let the wicket-keeper take his place, and while some one throws or hits, let him require the quickest and most accurate throwing. A ball properly thrown comes in like an arrow—no time being lost by soaring high in air. At short distances, throw at once to the hands; where unavoidable, with a long hop. But this hop should result from a low and skimming throw, or the ball will lose its speed. Practise throwing without any flourish, by a single action of the arm. Any good fieldsman will explain, far better than our pen, the art of picking up a ball in the only position consistent with a quick return. A good throw often runs a man out—an advantage very rarely gained without something superior in fielding. Young players should practise throwing, and remember never to throw in a long hop when they can throw to the hands.

Many a "run out" has been lost by that in-

judicious practice of throwing long hops to the wicket-keeper, instead of straight—and, when necessary, hard—to his hands. To throw in a long hop is only allowable when you might fail to throw a catch, and, which is worst of all, make too short a hop to the wicket-keeper.

Meeting the ball requires a practice of its own, and is a charming operation when you can do it; for the same impetus with which you run in assists the quickness of your return. Practice will reveal the secret of running in; only, run with your hands near the ground, so as not to have suddenly to stoop; and keep your eyes well open, not losing the ball for an instant. In fielding, as in batting, you must study all the varieties of balls, whether tices, half-volleys, or other lengths.

A fast runner *nascitur non fit:* still, practice does much, and especially for all the purposes of a fieldsman near the wicket. A spring and quick start are things to learn; and that both right and left: few men spring equally well with both feet. Anticipating the ball, and getting the momentum on the proper side, is everything in fielding; and practice will enable a man to get his proper footing and quick shifting step. A good cricketer, like a good skater, must have free use of both feet: and

of course a fine fieldsman must catch with both hands.

Practise left-handed catching in a ring; also picking up with left: "Any one can catch with his right," says the old player; "now, my boy, let us see what you can do with your left." Try, also, "slobbering" a ball, to see how many arts there are of recovering it afterwards. I need hardly say that jumping off your feet for a high catch, and rushing in to a ball and patting it up in the air and catching it the second attempt, are all arts of first-rate practitioners.

Your hands should be on the rat-trap principle,—taking anything in, and letting nothing out again. Of course a ball has a peculiar feeling, and spins off a bat quite different from a throw; so practise accordingly. By habit, hand and eye will go together: what the eye sees, the right part of the hand will touch by a natural adjustment. There is a way of allowing for the spin of the ball in the air: as to its tendency at Cover to twist, especially to the left, this is too obvious to require notice.

I am ashamed to be obliged to remind players, old as well as young, that there is such a thing as being a good judge of a short run. It is a tale perhaps thrice told, but more than thrice

forgotten, that the partner should follow up the ball. How many batsmen destroy the very life of the game by standing still like an extra umpire!

Symptoms of a Loser of Runs.—He never follows up a ball, but leans on his bat, or stands sociably by the umpire; he has 20 yards to run from a state of rest, instead of 16, already on the move; he is addicted to checks and false starts; he destroys the confidence of his partner's running; he condemns his partner to play his worst, because in a state of disgust; he never runs and turns, but runs and stops, or shoots past his wicket, making ones for twos, and twos for threes; he often runs a man out, and, besides this loss, depresses his own side, and animates the other; he makes slow fieldsmen as good as fast: having no idea of stealing a run for the least miss, he lets the fieldsmen stand where they please, and save both the two and the one; he lets the bowler coolly experiment with the wicket, when one run breaks the dangerous series, and destroys his confidence; he spares the bowler that disturbance of his nerves which results from stolen runs and suspicion of his fieldsmen; he continues the depressing influence of maiden Overs, when a Single would dispel the charm; he deserves the name of

the "*Green* Man and *Still*," and usually commences his innings by saying, "Pray don't run me out, sir,"—"We'll run no risks whatever." When there is a long hit, the same man will tear away like mad, forgetting that both he and his partner (a heavier man, perhaps) want a little wind left for the next ball.—*O Ignavum pecus!* so-called "steady" players. Steady, indeed! You stand like posts, without the least intuition of a run. The true cricketer runs while another is thinking of it; indeed, he does not think—he sees and feels it is a run. He descries when the fieldsman has a long reach with his left hand, or when he must overbalance and right himself or turn, before he can throw. He watches hopefully the end of a long throw, or a ball backed carelessly up.

Bear witness, bowlers, to the virtue of a single run made sharply and vexatiously. Just as your plot is ripe, the batsmen change, and an ordinary length supersedes the very ball that would have beguiled your man. Is it nothing to break in upon the complete Over to the same man? And, how few the bowlers who repeat the length from which a run is made! To repeat, passionless as the catapult, a likely length, hit or not hit—here it is the professional beats the amateur.

The indirect influences of making each possible

run are too little considered. Once we saw the whole fortune of the game changed by simply effecting two single runs: one, while a man was threatening to throw instead of throwing in the ball; the other, while a ball was dribbling in from about middle wicket. This single run ended thirteen maiden Overs, set the bowlers blaming the fieldsmen, at the expense, as usual, of their equanimity and precision, and proved the turning-point in a match till then dead against us.—Calculate the effect of "stolen runs" on the powers of a bowler, and on his tactics as against a batsman, on the places of the fieldsmen, on their insecurity when hurried, and on the spirit it puts into the one party and takes away from the other; and add to this the runs evidently lost; and we are confident that the same Eleven that go out for sixty would, with better running, generally make seventy-five, and not uncommonly a hundred.

Attend, therefore, to the following rules:—
1. Back up every ball as soon as actually delivered, and as far as consistent with safe return.
2. When both men can see the ball, as before wicket, let the decision depend on the batsman, as less prepared to start, or on the elder and heavier man, by special agreement; and let the decision be the partner's when the ball is behind

the hitter. 3. Let men run by some call: mere beckoning with strangers leads to fatal errors, backing up being mistaken for "run." "Yes," "No," or "Run," "Stop," are the words. "Away" sounds like "Stay." 4. Let the hitter also remember that he can often back up a few yards in anticipation of a ball passing the fieldsman. 5. Let the first run be made quickly when there is the least chance of a second. 6. Let the ball be watched and followed up, as for a run, on the chance of a miss from the wicket-keeper or fieldsman. So, never over-run your ground. 7. Always run with judgment and attention, never beyond your strength.

Good running between wickets does not mean running yourself out of wind, to the suffusion of the eye and the trembling of the hand, though a good batsman must train for good wind. The reason of running out and losing runs is, generally, the want of an established rule as to who shall decide the run. How rarely do we see a man run out but from hesitation! How often does a man lose his chance of safety by stopping to judge what is his partner's ball! Let cricketers observe some rule as to who shall judge the run. It will then be evident who is to blame,—though, to censure the batsman because his partner is run

out, when that partner is not backing up, is too bad. Let the man who has to decide bear all the responsibility if his partner is out; only, let prompt obedience be the rule. When a man feels he must run because called, he will take more pains to be ready; and when once it is plain that a batsman has erred in judgment and lost one wicket of his Eleven, he will, if worth anything, make a study of running, and avoid so unpleasant a reflection for the future.

These and many other ideas on this most essential, yet most neglected, part of the game, I shall endeavour to illustrate by the following computation of runs which might have been added to an innings of 100.

Suppose, therefore, 100 runs scored; 90 by hits, 4 by wide balls, and 6 by byes and leg byes, the loss is commonly as follows:—

1. Singles lost from hits	About 10
2. Ones instead of twos, by not making the former run quickly and turning for a second, but overrunning ground and stopping . . .	„ 4
3. Runs that might have been stolen from balls dropped and slovenly handled . . .	„ 3
4. Loss from fieldsmen standing where they please, and covering more ground than they dare do with sharp runners	„ 5
5. Loss from not having those misses which result from hurrying the field	„ 4
Carried forward . . .	26

	Brought forward . . .		26
6.	Loss from bowlers not being ruffled, as they would be if feeling the runs should be stopped .	About	7
7.	Extra loss from byes not run (with the least "slobbering" the runners may cross—though some play cunning)	„	6
8.	From having draws and slips stopped, which long-stop could not stop if nearer in . .	„	5
9.	One man run out	„	8
10.	Depressing influence of the same . . .	„	?
11.	From not having the only long-stop disgusted and hurried into missing everything . .	„	?
12.	From not having the adversary all wild by these combined annoyances	„	?
	Total . . .	„	52
13.	Loss from adversary playing better when going in against a score of 100 than against 152 .	„	?

Now, though I have put down nothing for four sources of loss, not the less material because hard to calculate, the difference between good runners and bad seems to be above half the score.. That many will believe me I can hardly expect; but, before any one contradicts, let him watch and reckon for himself, especially where the fielding is not first-rate.

In choosing an Eleven, the loser of runs should be avoided on the same principle as a bad fieldsman. Reckon not only the runs a man may make, but the runs he may lose, and how the game turns about sometimes by a man being run out.

A perfect cricketer, like a perfect whist-player,

must qualify his scientific rules, and make the best of a bad partner—but how few are perfect, especially in this point!

A good innings disdains a sleeping partner. Be alive and moving; and—instead of saying "Well played!" "Famous hit, sir!" or, as we sometimes hear in the way of encouragement, "How near!" "What a close shave!" "Pray take care, Smith!"—think of the runs, and say, "Run," or "Stop," as the case may be. Thus you may avoid the ludicrous scene of two big men rushing from their wickets, pausing, turning back, starting again, and having a small talk together at the eleventh yard, and one or the other finding a prostrate wicket, while apologies and recriminations are the only solace.

Old players need keep up a habit of throwing and of active movements; for the redundant spirit and buoyancy of youthful activity soon evaporates. Many a zealous cricketer loses his once-famed quickness from mere disuse—*Sic omnia fatis, in pejus ruere.* Instead of always batting, and practising Shaw and Southerton, till their dodges are dodges no more, and it is little credit to score from them, go to your neighbour's wicket and practise fielding for an hour, or else, next match, you may find your throwing at fault.

SPARE THE BOWLER.—One reason for returning the ball to the wicket-keeper, who should advance quietly, and toss it to the hands of the bowler.

A swift throw, or any exertion in the field which hurts the bowler's hand, or sets it shaking, may lose a game. If a bowler has half-volleys returned to him, by stretching and stooping after them, he gets out of his swing. Now, this same swing is a great point with a bowler. Watch him after he has got his footsteps firm for his feet, and when in his regular stride, and see the increased precision of his performance. Then comes the time when your great gun tumbles down his men: and that is the time that some sure, judicious batsman, whose eminence is little seen amidst the loose hitting of a scratch match, comes calmly and composedly to the wicket and makes a stand; and, as he disposes of maiden Overs, and steals ones or twos, he breaks the spell that bound his men, and makes the dead-straight bowling good for cuts and leg-hits. In no game or sport do I ever witness half the satisfaction of the bowler who can thus bowl maiden Overs and defy a score; or of the batsman who takes the edge off the same, runs up the telegraph to even betting, and gives easier work and greater confidence to those who follow. A wicket-keeper, too, may dart off

and save a bowler from fielding a three or four; and, whenever he leaves his wicket, Slip must instantly take wicket-keeper's place. "How stale!" "True; but—*instantly*'s the word," from neglect of which we have seen dreadful mistakes made even in good matches.

Ay, and what beautiful things are done by quick return and a low shy; no time wasted in parabolic curves: ball just skimming the ground when it comes in a long hop, but quickest of all returns is a throw to the top of the bails into wicket-keeper's hands.

POINT.—Your great strength lies in anticipation. With slow bowling and a bad batsman, Point can anticipate easily enough. But the question is, where to stand. The common fault of Point is, that he stands, if near, too near; and if far off, not far enough off. Stand where you yourself can catch and stop. If slow in hand and eye, stand off for longer catches, else, by standing where a quick man would catch sharp catches, you miss everything. With fast bowling, few balls which could be caught at seven yards, ground short of twelve; though, if the ground is very rough, or the bowling slow, the ball may be popped up near the bat, even by good players.

Whenever a ball is hit Off, Point must cross instanter, or he'll be too late to back up, especially at the bowler's wicket.

Point is sometimes Point proper, like a wicket-keeper or short-slip, to cramp the batsman, and take advantage of his mistakes; but with fast bowling and good batsmen, Point may advantageously stand off like any other fieldsman. For then he will save many more runs, and may make quite as many catches. But, to stand near, as a scientific Point, with wild bowling is absurd. Carpenter and Iddison are about the best at Point among the Players, and Dr. Grace, Messrs. W. G. Grace and V. E. Walker among Amateurs.

SHORT-LEG is often a very hardly-used personage, expected to save runs that seem easy, but are actually impossibilities. A good ball, perhaps, is pushed forward to middle wicket On, short-leg being square, and the bowler looks black at him. Then a Draw is made, when short-leg is standing rather forward, and no man is ubiquitous. If the batsman often does not know where the rise or bias may reflect the ball, how should the fieldsman know? In playing short-leg, there is a sphere for talent almost of the same kind as in playing Point.

COVER-POINT and LONG-SLIP are both difficult places; the ball comes so fast and curling, that it puzzles even the best man. No place in the field but long-stop has the work of long-slip.

The chief point in these places is to stand either to save one or to save two. This depends on the quickness of the fieldsman and the judgment of the runners. With good judges of a run, you must stand rather near to save one; but quick return is everything.

To save two, a good man may stand a very long way off on hard ground, and reduce the hardest cuts to singles. But a common fault is, "standing nowhere," neither to save one, nor to save two. Remember not to stand as sharp when fast bowling is replaced by slow. Cover is the place for brilliant fielding. Watch well the batsman, and start in time. Half a spring in anticipation puts you already under weigh, and makes yards in the ground you can cover. The following is curious:—

"You would think," Caldecourt used to say, "that a ball to the right hand may be returned more quickly than a ball to the left." But ask him, and he will show you how, if at a long reach, he always found it otherwise. The right shoulder may be even in the better position to return (in

spite of change of hands), when the left picks up the ball than when the right picks it up.

Some good Covers have been quicker with a hard jerk than with a throw; for the attitude of fielding is less altered. Still, a jerk is less easy to the wicket-keeper. A long-slip with good head and heels may assist long-stop; his triumph is to run a man out by anticipating the balls that bump off long-stop's wrists and shins.

A third man up, or a middle-slip, is at times very killing: this allows long-slip to stand back for hard hits, and no catch escapes. A forward Point, or middle wicket close in, often snaps up a catch or two, particularly when the ground is dangerous for forward play, or when the batsman plays hesitatingly.

Thick-soled shoes save colds in soppy weather, and do not jar when the ground is hard; for the Cantabs say that

Thin soles + hard ground = tender feet

is an undeniable equation. Bowlers should wear worsted socks to save blisters, and mind the thread is not fastened off in a knot, just under the most sensitive part of the heel.

Much inconvenience arises in a match by spectators standing in the eye of the ball; so, stretch

strips of white canvas on poles five feet high: for this, while it keeps the stupid away, provides a white background for each wicket.

This is good also in a park, where the deep shade of trees increases the confessed uncertainty of the game. Some such plan is much wanted on all public grounds, where the sixpenny freeholders stand and hug their portly corporations, and, by standing in the line of the wicket, give the ball all the shades of green coat, light waistcoat, and drab smalls. Still, batsmen must try to rise superior to such annoyances; for if the bowler changes his side of the wicket, the umpire will often be in the light of the ball.

Long-stop.—If you would estimate the value of a practised long-stop, only try to play a match with a bad one. Still, patient merit is rarely appreciated; for what is done very well looks so easy. Long-stopping requires the cleanest handling and quickest return. Among the most celebrated are Jupp, Rowbotham, and, last but not least, Bignall.

On Long-stopping, Mr. Hartopp, unequalled at this post, kindly wrote: "No place requires so much patient perseverance, the work is so mechanical. I have seen many a brilliant fields-

man there for a short innings, while the bowling is straight and rarely passes; but, let him have to humdrum through 150 or 200 runs, and he will get bored, tired, and careless; then, runs come apace. Patience is much wanted, if a sharp runner is in; for he will often try a long-stop's temper by stealing runs; in such a case I have found it the best plan to prepare the wicket-keeper for a hard throw to his, the nearer, wicket; for, if this does not run the man out, it frightens him down to steadier running. Throwing over may sometimes answer; but a cunning runner will get in your way, or beat a ball thrown over his head.

"Long-stop's distance must often be as much as four or five yards less for a good runner than for a bad. Short distance does not make stopping more difficult, because it gives fewer hops and twists to the ball; but a longer distance enables you to cover more tips and draws, and saves leg byes. Good runners ought to cross if the ball is in the least fumbled; but clean fielding, with quick under-hand return, would beat the Regent Street Pet himself, did he attempt a run.

"Long-stop is wholly at fault if he requires the wicket-keeper to stand aside; this would spoil the stumping. As to gloves and pads, let every

add—and how few, very few, can accomplish it! —taking the ball in spite of an unexpected bias or turn from the bat? Still, practice will do much where nature has done a little; but with modern bowling you want a man both "rough and ready." Mr. Herbert Jenner was "the ready man:" so are the three P's—Pooley, Plumb, and Pinder.

At wicket-keeping, the men of labour ought to beat the men of leisure. Hard hands are essential; and hard hands can only come from hard work. Wenman's calling, that of a wheelwright and carpenter, was in his favour. "I found my hands quite seasoned," writes an amateur, "after a two-months' work at the oar." Chatterton feared no pace in bowling. But Pooley's name now stands the highest of all: the certainty and facility with which he takes all kinds of bowling, both with right hand and left, can hardly be surpassed. Mr. Ridding once stumped Hillyer off Mr. Fellowes' bowling, and that with an off-ball nearly wide! For one season that gentleman was equal to the best man in his best day.

Hammond was the great wicket-keeper of former days: but then the bowling was often about Clarke's pace. Browne of Brighton and Osbaldeston put wicket-keepers to flight; but the

race reappeared in — the finest ever seen for moderate pace—Mr. Jenner, famed not only for the neatest stumping, but for the marvellous quantity of ground he could cover, serving as a near Point, Leg, and Slip, as well as wicket-keeper.

Mr. Jenner was very elegant in his movements. Box took a lesson from him in style and movement. Box was always a first-rate man with regular bowling. "Have me to bowl," Lillywhite used to say, "Box to keep wicket, and Pilch to hit, and then you'll see Cricket;" for Box was best with Lillywhite, as Pooley is with Southerton.

As to making mistakes as wicket-keeper, what mortal combination of flesh and blood can help it? One of the most experienced Long-stops of past days, Mr. Hartopp, after many years at Lord's and in the country, says, to take even one out of three of possible chances, reckoning catches as well as stumping, has proved, in his experience, good average wicket-keeping: for think of leg shooters! Lockyer admitted that he should not expect to average above one out of *two*.

"I have seen," also wrote Mr. Hartopp, "Mr. C. Taylor—who was capital at running in, and rarely stumped out, having an excellent eye, and if the twist of the ball beat him it was enough to beat

the wicket-keeper also—I have seen him, after missing a ball, walk quietly back to his ground, poor wicket-keeper looking foolish and vexed at not stumping him, and the ring, of course, calling him a muff." Really wicket-keepers are hardly used; the spectators little know that a twist which misses the bat may as easily escape the hand. "I once saw Mr. Anson, in a match against the Etonians, stump a man with his right, catch the flying bail with his left, and replace it so quickly that the man's surprise and puzzle made all the fun: stumped out, though wicket seemingly never down!" Mr. Jenner was very clever in these things, skimming off one bail with his little finger, ball in hand, and not troubling the umpire. Once, his friend, Mr. R. K., had an awkward trick of pulling up his trousers, which lifted his leg, every time he had missed a ball: Mr. Jenner waited for his accustomed habit, caught him in the act, and stumped him.

The great thing in wicket-keeping is, for hand and eye to go together, just as with batting, and what is exercise for the former assists the latter. Any exercise in which the hand habitually tries to obey the eye, is useful for Cricket; fielding improves batting, and batting improves fielding.

The sixteen principal wicket-keepers of the last fifty years were all efficient batsmen; namely,

Hammond, Searle, Box, Wenman, Dorrington, C. Brown, Chatterton, Lockyer, the Stephensons, Pooley, Pinder, with Messrs. Jenner, Anson, Nicholson, and Ridding.

"How would you explain, sir," said Cobbett, "that the Players' batting keeps pace with the Gentlemen's when we never touch a bat except in a game?"—"Because you are constantly following the ball with hand and eye together, which forms a valuable practice for judging pace, and time and distance; not enough certainly to teach batting, but enough to keep it up. Besides, if you practise too little, most gentlemen practise too much, ending in a kind of experimental and speculative play, which proves—like gentlemen's farming—more scientific than profitable."

Amateurs often try at too much, mix different styles, and, worse than all, *form conflicting habits.* The game, for an average, is the players' game, because, less ambitious, with less excitement about favourite hits, of a simple style, with fewer things to think of, and a game in which, though limited, they are better grounded.

Amateurs are apt to try a bigger game than they could safely play with twice their practice. Many a man, for instance, whose talent lies in defence, tries free hitting, and, between the two, proves good for nothing. Others, perhaps, can

play straight and to the Off:—and should not they learn to hit On also? Certainly; but while in a transition state, they are not fit for a country match: and some men are always in this transition state. Horace had good cricket ideas, for, said he,

"Aut famam sequere, aut sibi convenientia finge."

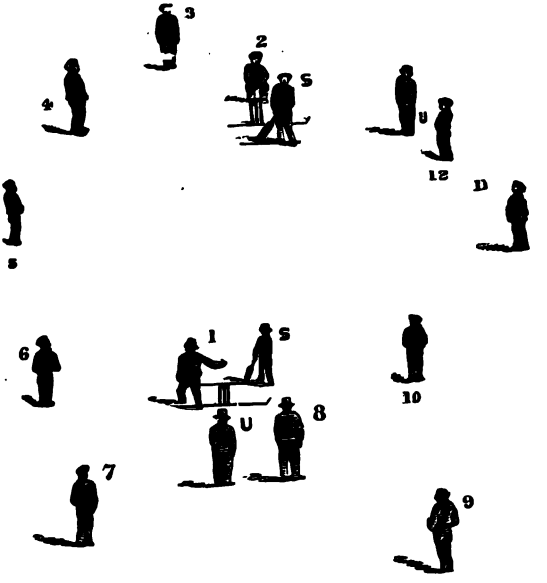
Either play for show off, and "that's villanous," says Hamlet, "and shows most pitiful ambition in the fool that uses it;" or, *sumite materiam—æquam viribus,* adopt a style that suits your capabilities; *cui lecta potenter erit res;* try at no more than you can do—*nec deseret hunc,*—and that's the game to carry you through.

"A mistake," said an experienced bowler, "in giving a leg ball or two, is not all clear loss; for a swing round to the leg often takes a man off his straight play. To ring the changes on Cutting with horizontal bat, and forward play with a straight bat, and leg-hitting, which takes a different bat again, requires more steady practice than most amateurs have either time or perseverance to learn thoroughly. So, one movement is continually interfering with the other."

The following diagrams, which have been kindly lent by the proprietors of "James Lillywhite's Cricketer's Annual," will show the position in the field to suit the different styles of bowling.

HOW TO PLACE THE CRICKET-FIELD.

No. I.—To a slow Bowler, either round-arm or "lobs."

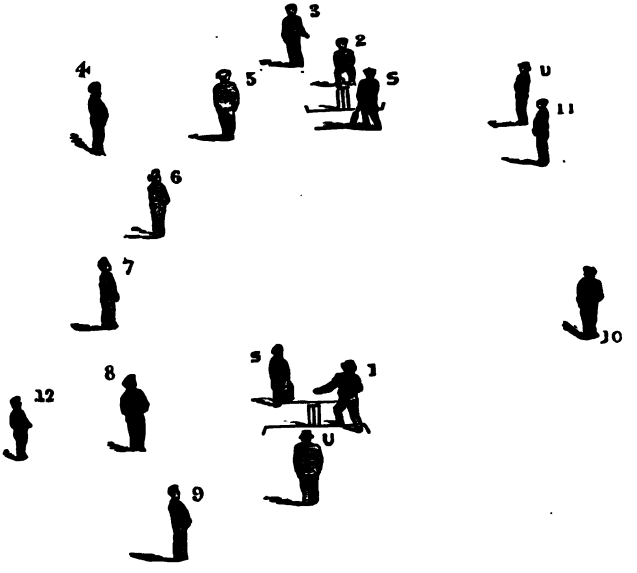


1. Bowler.	5. Cover Point.	9. Longfield-on.
2. Wicket-keeper.	6. Mid-off.	10. Mid-on.
3. Short-slip.	7. Long-off.	11. Square-leg.
4. Point.	8. Mid-on (extra).	12. Short-leg.

S. S. Strikers. U. U. Umpires.

These positions are given to suit the present style of play, and must be altered according to circumstances. A bowler like Southerton, supported by a reliable wicket-keeper, can sometimes, but not if the ground be bumpy or heavy, dispense with short-slip (3) and place him at 8. The fielding on the off side for a slow bowler should be reliable, and the occupants of No. 7, 9, and 11 sure catches. The last-named (11) is usually brought very forward to suit the present hitting. The most eminent round-arm slow bowlers are Southerton and Alfred Shaw.

No. II.—A slow or medium-pace left-handed Bowler (round-arm).



1. Bowler.	5. Point.	9. Long-off.
2. Wicket-keeper.	6. Cover-point.	10. Mid-on.
3. Short-slip.	7. Cover-point (forward).	11. Short-leg.
4. Third man.	8. Mid-off.	

S. S. Strikers. U. U. Umpires.

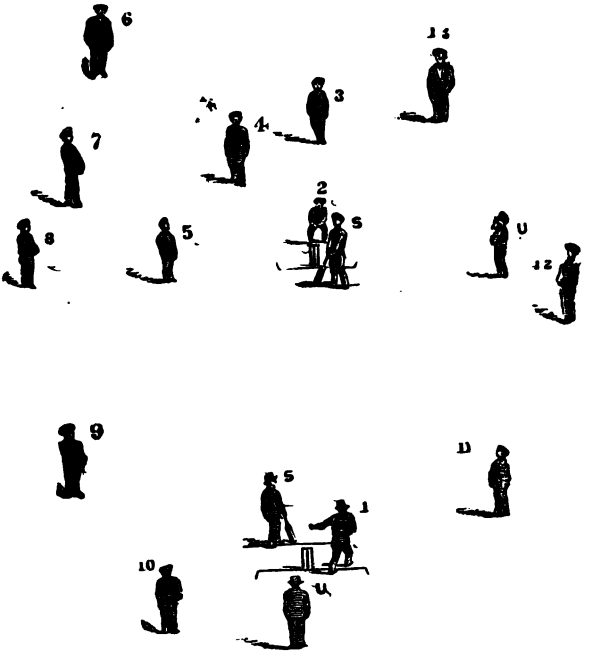
Nowadays long-stop is usually dispensed with, but he should not be removed unless bowling is very straight and wicket-keeping very sure. In this case it would be advisable to place mid-off (No. 8) farther back, and place No. 9 at long-stop. With a good on-hitter, however, like Mr. W. G. Grace, the on-side must be strengthened by the removal of No. 12 to a position on the on-side between 10 and 11. Barratt (Durham) is a good specimen of the slow left, and James Lillywhite, jun., of the medium-pace left round-arm bowler.

No. III.—To an ordinary medium-pace Bowler.

1. Bowler.	5. Third-man.	9. Long-on.
2. Wicket-keeper.	6. Point.	10. Mid-on.
3. Long-stop.	7. Cover-point.	11. Short-leg.
4. Short-slip.	8. Mid-off.	12. Long-leg.
S. S. Strikers.	U. U. Umpires.	

Medium pace bowling of the present day usually foregoes a long-stop when accuracy can be relied on. In this case long-stop may judiciously be placed at long-on, though obviously the positions must be altered according to the specialities of each batsman. Long-leg (No. 12) is often brought forward to a line parallel with the umpire at batsman's end, but if the striker hit late he should remain sharp. Of this class of bowling Messrs. W. G. Grace and C. J. Brune are notable instances.

No. IV.—To a fast left-handed bowler (round-arm).

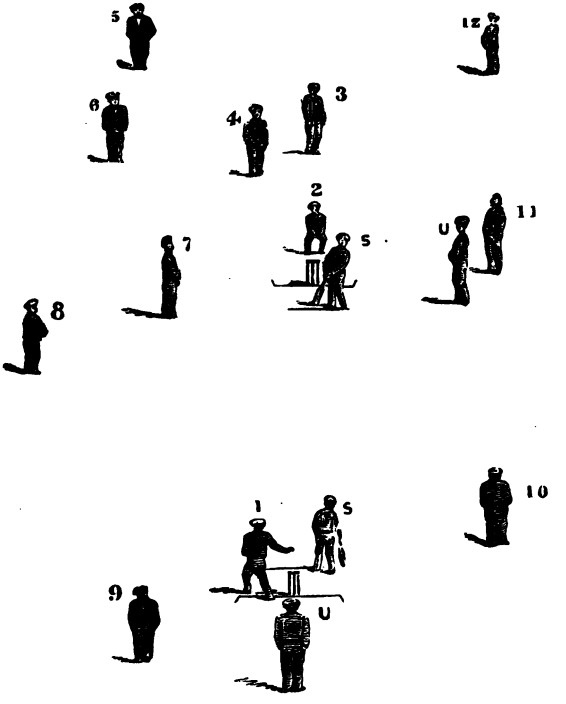


1. Bowler.
2. Wicket-keeper.
3. Long-stop.
4. Short-slip.
5. Point.
6. Long-slip.
7. Third-man.
8. Cover-point.
9. Cover-point (forward).
10. Mid-off.
11. Mid-on.
12. Short-leg.
13. Long-leg.

S. S. Strikers. U. U. Umpires.

To a fast left-hand bowler, as J. C. Shaw or Howitt, a long-leg is a rarity. Consequently he may be transplanted to the slips as third-man (No. 7), or in case of a good on-hitter to No. 12, as short-leg just in front of the umpire. Fast left-hand bowlers often require a leg rather sharp, as 13. Nos. 12 and 7 must be placed at discretion. If required at short-leg, No. 7 should be placed more behind point, and No. 6 rather more square; but for the mere placing of the field at the start the positions in the diagram are preferable, with No. 7 behind point, instead of at 12, keeping 11 well round towards the umpire at striker's end. If, on the other hand, the off-side is the strong point of the batsman, Nos. 13 and 11 will be enough on the on-side. No. 5 (point) should be in a line with the wicket, and not with the batsman, for this bowling.

No. V.—To a fast round-arm Bowler.



1. Bowler.	5. Long-slip.	9. Mid-off.
2. Wicket-keeper.	6. Third-man.	10. Mid-on.
3. Long-stop.	7. Point.	11. Short-leg.
4. Short-slip.	8. Cover-point.	12. Long-leg.

S. S. Strikers. U. U. Umpires.

Some bowlers prefer to dispense with long-leg (No. 12), but this device should not be tried without good reason. In case of his removal it would be well to place him at mid-on (No. 10), as the field, it will be seen, is placed for twelve instead of eleven men. Freeman, Martin M'Intyre, and Mr. Lipscomb are three notable specimens of this class of bowler.

These diagrams are intended to show chiefly the direction relative to the wickets in which each fieldsman is placed. They are not intended to be mathematically accurate in point of distance, as the necessity of compressing the field to show the full length of the wickets has made the fieldsmen in several instances out of proportion, and the measurement of their positions, in comparison with the scale of ground from batsman to batsman, inaccurate.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE GENTLEMEN AND PLAYERS' MATCH.

THE first mention we find of the match between the Gentlemen and Players is in 1821. Many early difficulties arose in making it, partly from untoward circumstances, and partly from differences of opinion among eminent cricketers as to the probability of bringing the sides to a balance. We shall find these obstacles were removed year by year by the energy of some members of the M.C.C. Committee. In 1821, the Gentlemen of the Marylebone Club, being very strong, resolved to try the experiment of breaking a lance with the Players, and entered the lists with them on the 23rd of July. The result proved disastrous to the Gentlemen, who retired from the encounter after the Players had scored 278 for six wickets, of which Beagley scored 113 not out. The Gentlemen had only reached 60 in their innings; thus, in spite of the great general and bowler,

Beauclerk, his side presented a "sorry sight." But a most important step in Cricket was taken—the match was commenced,—and in spite of their easy defeat, the Gentlemen were not cowed into retirement, but rallying their forces in the ensuing summer, they presented a bold front to the Players upon the 28th of July, 1822. On this occasion the mighty Beldham and Lambert did not oppose them, as in the previous year, and partly on that account, and partly perhaps from increased energy roused by memory of former defeat, the Gentlemen won by six wickets.

As it is the first record of the success of the Gentlemen, and contains many distinguished names, we subjoin the score :—

PLAYERS.

	1 t Inn.		2n[d] Inn.
Searle, ct. Budd	3	ct. Vigne	25
Holloway, b. Beauclerk	0	ct. Beauclerk	2
Beagley, st. Vigne	4	b. do.	1
Saunders, b. Beauclerk	15	ct. Vigne	10
Sparks, ct. do.	2	st. do.	9
Broadbridge, st Vigne	3	st. do.	22
Jordan, hit wicket	38	ct. Barnard	33
Howard, do.	3	not out	1
Ashby, b. Beauclerk	3	b. Budd	11
Smith, ct. Barnett	9	b. Beauclerk	5
Bentley, not out	2	run out	5
Byes	1		
	83		124

GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
R. Lane, Esq.	25	ct. Beagley	1
T. Nicholl, Esq.	16	ct. Broadbridge	0
W. Ward, Esq.	6	not out	39
H. Budd, Esq.	69	ct. Jordan	3
Lord F. Beauclerk	9	not out	27
J. Barnard, Esq.	3		
W. Deedes, Esq.	2	b. Sparks.	0
H. Lloyd, Esq.	1		
C. Barnett, Esq.	0		
T. Bache, Esq.	1		
T. Vigne, Esq.	0		
Byes	6		
	138		70

This was a vast improvement upon 1821, and showed that with exertion and determination the match was not so one-sided as at first blush it appeared. If we attribute this victory to energy excited by previous defeat in 1821, we must attribute the discomfiture to which the Gentlemen were put in 1823 to the security in which they indulged from their success in 1822.

In consequence of the absence of many of the Gentlemen in 1823, their side was very weak, and the Players made sad havoc with them, beating them by 345 runs. On this account the match was abandoned for a time, and at length played again occasionally—whenever, in fact, the Gen-

tlemen fancied themselves. The Players were always successful. Finally, an attempt was made to bring the sides to an equality by taking in Players; thus in 1835 Redgate and Cobbett were given to the Gentlemen. But no,—even with such powerful assistance the Gentlemen were defeated; but it is worthy of remark that on this occasion Redgate first met Fuller Pilch in a double match, and bowled him for 0 in each innings.

In 1836 another plan was tried for equalising the sides, and eighteen Gentlemen played against eleven Players. The latter experienced the loss of Lillywhite, who was unable to play; but the Gentlemen had by no means the best eighteen of the time—some, in the emergency, were taken in upon the ground, so many again having failed in their promises. The chief feature in this match was the bowling of Mr. Louth, then a boy at Winchester; it was very effective, and paralysed most of the Players. Mr. A. Mynn was as good as possible, and the Gentlemen won by 35 runs.

In 1837, the number was reduced from eighteen to sixteen against eleven, when the Players won in one innings by 38 runs, but Mr. A. Mynn was unable to play. In this year Mr. Ward proposed

another method of reducing the odds on the Players; the Gentlemen defended wickets 27 by 8 inches, the Players, wickets 36 inches by 12. This was called the "Barn-door Match;" by some, "Ward's Folly." It was not favoured by much popularity—it was with great difficulty that Mr. Ward got an eleven together, and the Players won in a single innings by 10 runs. The big stumps are preserved like their relatives Gog and Magog, and may be seen at Lord's Cricket Ground.

With the leading members at Lord's the match had now fallen into disrepute. It was useless for the Honourable Frederick Ponsonby or Mr. Charles Taylor to repeat their sincere convictions that by playing the match regularly year by year it might be brought to something like equality. In reply it was with much reason urged that it would be a waste of money to repeat a match in which the odds were 3 to 1 in favour of one side at starting. Still sanguine of success, they struggled on, and enlisting in their views Mr. C. Bowdler, they played the match in 1840. The expenses were almost entirely defrayed by him. The victory was awarded to the Players, who won by nine wickets.

In 1841 the Hon. Frederick Ponsonby an-

nounced that the match of Gentlemen and Players not being considered of sufficient interest to warrant the Committee of the M.C.C. in offering it their support, he proposed to raise a subscription that it might be played. The judgment he had formed with Mr. Charles Taylor proved correct; sufficient funds were soon forthcoming; and Mr. J. Dark having in the following year most liberally taken on himself the whole expense, and the Gentlemen having on that occasion, as will be seen, broken the spell of years, this became an annual M.C.C. match, since played with varied success. Many years have passed since its regular establishment, and we cannot refrain from saying, that to those who fought the battle of the Gentlemen in the days of their disrepute, our gratitude is due for securing the annual repetition of the most interesting match of the season.

We have now traced this match to 1841, which we will call the Subscription Match: it was won by the Players with three wickets only. It is well to remark, too, that Mr. Felix did not play.

We propose giving the results of the subsequent matches up to the present time, adding a few general remarks in some cases.

In 1842 (in spite of the death of poor Cobbett), the Players presented perhaps the strongest eleven that ever met at Lord's. On the side of the Gentlemen, neither the Hon. E. Grimston nor Mr. Charles Taylor played; it is unnecessary, therefore, to say that their eleven was not the strongest to be mustered, and yet, strange to say, on this very occasion, as if to show the grand uncertainty of the game, the Gentlemen first achieved a victory. Felix made one of his distinguished hands, and the Gentlemen were successful, as the score will show:—

GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Mynn, Esq. b. Redgate	4	b. Hillyer	9
A. Mynn, Esq. ct. Hawkins	21	b. Lillywhite	46
N. Felix, Esq. ct. Hillyer, b. Lillywhite	0	ct. Fenner, b. Hillyer	88
R. Kynaston, Esq. b. Lillywhite	0	b. Lillywhite	7
G. Langdon, Esq. b. Redgate	0	b. Hillyer	0
T. A. Anson, Esq. run out	1	b. Hillyer	10
Hon. F. Ponsonby, ct. and b. Hillyer	23	ct. and b. Lillywhite	6
C. G. Whittaker, Esq. run out	9	not out	9
Hon. R. Grimston, ct. and b. Lillywhite	4	ct. Hillyer, b. Lillywhite	7
P. Mundy, Esq. run out	0	b. Fenner	6
Sir F. Bathurst, not out	6	b. Hillyer	0
Byes	10	Byes, 13; wide, 5	18
	78		206

PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Hillyer, b. Bathurst	1	not out	11
Fenner, b. A. Mynn	12	b. A. Mynn	3
Guy, b. A. Mynn	1	b. A. Mynn	3
Box, b. Bathurst	6	b. A. Mynn	7
Pilch, b. A. Mynn	0	run out	6
Sewell, b. Bathurst	5	ct. A. Mynn, b. Bathurst	1
Wenman, ct. A. Mynn, b. Bathurst	14	b. A. Mynn	6
Hawkins, ct. A. Mynn, b. Bathurst	20	b. A. Mynn	0
Good, ct. Ponsonby, b. Bathurst	32	run out	14
Lillywhite, b. Bathurst	9	run out	0
Redgate, not out	9	b. A. Mynn	0
Byes and wides, 8 and 5	13	Byes, 14; wides, 2	16
	122		67

We proceed to 1843. On the 31st July the match was again played. Mr. Charles Taylor scored 89, and the Gentlemen won in one innings by 20 runs. The Players obtained 137 and 99—the Gentlemen reaching 256.

On the 29th July, 1844, the Players won by 38 runs. Felix did not play. In this match the batting of Mr. Kynaston was very superior; he added in his two innings 64 to the score. On the 21st July, 1845, the Players won by 67 runs, with loss of Wenman. In 1846 the two sides were very powerful, but Pilch was absent, and Wenman too, as appears from the score:—

PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Martingell, b. Bathurst	11	run out	26
Dean, b. A. Mynn	0	ct. Haygarth, b. Bathurst	3
Box, ct. W. Mynn, b. A. Mynn	3	ct. Pickering, b. Bathurst	7
Guy, b. A. Mynn	25	run out	31
Parr, b. Bathurst	0	b. A. Mynn	5
Butler, b. A. Mynn	6	b. Bathurst	11
Clarke, b. A. Mynn	1	ct. Felix, b. Bathurst	3
Sewell, b. A. Mynn	10	not out	12
Dorrington, b. A. Mynn	5	b. A. Mynn	1
Hillyer, ct. W. Mynn, b. Bathurst	4	b. Bathurst	11
Lillywhite, not out	4	b. Mynn	3
Byes, 15; wide, 1	16	Byes, 29; wides, 3	32
	85		145

GENTLEMEN.

W. Mynn, Esq. b. Clarke	5	not out	2
A. Haygarth, Esq. st. Box, b. Hillyer	1	st. Box, b. Hillyer	26
N. Felix, Esq. ct. Hillyer, b. Hillyer	6	l. b. wkt, b. Hillyer	0
A. Mynn, Esq. ct. Butler, b. Hillyer	13	ct. Guy, b. Lillywhite	1
C. G. Taylor, Esq. b. Clarke	23	st. Box, b. Hillyer	44
W. Pickering, Esq. ct. Guy, b. Hillyer	3	b. Lillywhite	2
E. Napper, Esq. b. Hillyer	0	l. b. wkt, b. Hillyer	3
R. P. Long, Esq. st. Box, b. Clarke	34	not out	9
Hon. R. Grimston, st. Box, b. Clarke	3	ct. Guy, b. Hillyer	2
Sir F. Bathurst, b. Clarke	8	b. Lillywhite	0
W. Nicholson, Esq. not out	4	b. Hillyer	18
Byes	5	Byes, 18; no ball, 1	19
	105		126

We shall not forget the excitement which the close of this match raised. If our memory is not treacherous, Mr. Walter Mynn went in last man, two runs being wanted. It requires no slight nerve to walk to the wicket under such circumstances, surrounded by an anxious group of scientific and interested critics. However, a better man could scarcely have been selected, although a circumstance not generally noticed gave the match to the Gentlemen. Lillywhite and Hillyer were at the time bowling in their best form; one run, making the tie, had been secured, when Guy, who was standing at point, was brought suddenly close in upon the batsman. An "uppy" hit was made—in fact, a chance was given to Guy, had he retained his place; as it was, the ball passed just out of reach over his head, and thus victory was hailed by the Gentlemen. A better contested game was never witnessed; the general play on either side was most scientific.

In 1847 an easy defeat was in store for the Gentlemen: the Players showed them no mercy. Nothing could resist Lillywhite and Clarke; they were in good form, the ground in good order for them, and they did not fail to improve these advantages.

We introduced the Players as invincible in 1847, winning their match by 147 runs. The Gentlemen scored 79 and 48, the Players 126 and 148. Thank you, Lillywhite and Clarke!

In 1848, on July 31st, the match was again resumed, and the Gentlemen retrieved their laurels. The weather was not favourable, but the ground was wet and sodden; and A. Mynn and Fellowes, finding themselves in company, afforded the Players every opportunity of showing their power in bowling. The latter were vanquished by 27 runs. Fellowes' rattling bowling was effective in the first innings, and A. Mynn even surpassed himself in the second. One more cheer for the Gentlemen!

On July 23rd, 1849, the Gentlemen won *in one innings by forty runs*, and in 1850 the Players won by *forty-eight runs in one innings;* though literally, the same Eleven which played on the side of the Gentlemen in 1849, *and won in one innings by forty runs*, with one exception (the Hon. R. Grimston giving place to Mr. Lee), played in 1850, and were beaten in one innings by 48 runs.

In addition we may remark that Pilch did not play for the Players in 1850.

1849.

GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.
Hon. R. Grimston, b. Wisden	18
W. Nicholson, Esq. run out	19
R. T. King, Esq. ct. Pilch, b. Clarke	11
A. Haygarth, Esq. b. Lillywhite	13
N. Felix, Esq. b. Hillyer	21
A. Mynn, Esq. b. Hillyer	18
C. Ridding, Esq. ct. Dean, b. Clarke	18
W. Ridding, Esq. b. Wisden	14
H. Fellowes, Esq. b. Hillyer	20
G. Yonge, Esq. not out	19
Sir F. Bathurst, ct. Parr, b. Hillyer	7
Byes	14
	192

PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Dean, b. Fellowes	2	b. Fellowes	0
Martingell, ct. Mynn, b. Bathurst	4	st. Ridding, b. Bathurst	1
Guy, ct. C. Ridding, b. Bathurst	8	not out	25
Hillyer, st. W. Ridding, b. Fellowes	0	b. Bathurst	4
Pilch, b. Fellowes	24	ct. King, b. Bathurst	7
Parr, b. Fellowes	1	b. Fellowes	10
Box, b. Fellowes	0	b. Yonge	26
Chester, b. Fellowes	5	b. Yonge	0
Clarke, ct. C. Ridding, b. Bathurst	4	b. Fellowes	3
Wisden, not out	5	run out	4
Lillywhite, b. Fellowes	3	(Hurt)	0
Byes, 7; wides, 2	9	Byes, 5; wides, 2	7
	65		87

We cannot but remark that the runs on the Gentlemen's side were more equally divided than

we ever before saw in any Cricket score. Usually some two batsmen make more than the other nine. Luck evidently favoured the Gentlemen. Hillyer said that Pilch played Mr. Fellowes' bowling with his chin high in air. "Mr. Ridding stumped Hillyer off Fellowes!" This was deemed a great feat at the time.

1850.

PLAYERS went in first; GENTLEMEN followed hands.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
I. M. Lee, Esq. b. Wisden	0	b. Wisden	6
W. Nicholson, Esq. b. Wisden	6	ct. Day, b. Clarke	13
R. T. King, Esq. b. Clarke	1	ct. Caffyn, b. Clarke	1
A. Haygarth, Esq. b. Wisden	6	b. Wisden	6
N. Felix, Esq. b. Wisden	22	ct. Box, b. Wisden	9
A. Mynn, Esq. b. Clarke	2	ct. Chatterton, b. Clarke	12
W. Ridding, Esq. ct. Wisden, b. Clarke	0	not out	1
C. Ridding, Esq. b. Clarke	0	b. Clarke	0
H. Fellowes, Esq. b. Wisden	1	b. Clarke	0
G. Yonge, Esq. b. Clarke	0	b. Clarke	7
Sir F. Bathurst, not out	1	b. Clarke	0
Bye, 1; no ball, 2	3	Bye, 1; leg-bye, 1; no ball, 1	3
	42		58

PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
Hunt, b. Bathurst	4
Wisden, b. Yonge	24
Martingell, ct. Felix, b. Bathurst	2
Guy, ct. King, b. King	25
Parr, not out	65
Carried forward	120

Brought forward	120
Box, b. Yonge	0
Caffyn, ct. W. Ridding, b. Yonge . . .	6
Chester, b. Bathurst	3
Chatterton, b. Fellowes	0
Clarke, b. Fellowes	5
Day, ct. Mynn, b. Bathurst	3
Byes, 4; leg-byes, 2; wides, 5 . . .	11
	148

Since that date the matches have been played regularly, and of late the Gentlemen have asserted their supremacy, mainly owing to their right arm, Mr. William Gilbert Grace. The full scores are all given up to the present time (April, 1873), commencing on the opposite page.

At LORD'S, *June* 23 *and* 24, 1851.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
A. Mynn, Esq., b Hillyer	6	c and b Clarke	7
E. Napper, Esq., b Clarke	6	b Hillyer	33
W. Nicholson, Esq., hit w, b Clarke	1	b Grundy	21
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Clarke	13	run out	0
R. T. King, Esq., c Wisden, b Hillyer	14	b Wisden	5
H. Vernon, Esq., b. Hillyer	12	c Guy, b Grundy	40
E. Macniven, Esq., b Hillyer	0	b Grundy	3
R. F. Skelton, Esq., c Guy, b Hillyer	5	b Clarke	8
H. W. Fellowes, Esq., c Box, b Hillyer	3	b Grundy	1
E. S. E. Hartopp, Esq., not out	3	b Wisden	2
Sir F. Bathurst, run out	2	not out	4
Byes, &c.	0	B. 3, l. b. 1	4
	65		128

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
J. Guy, c. King, b Mynn	65
J. Dean, run out	3
G. Parr, b Bathurst	32
W. Caffyn, b Bathurst	48
T. Box, b Mynn	4
G. Chatterton, b Mynn	0
J. Wisden, b Bathurst	22
J. Grundy, b Fellowes	9
W. Hillyer, b Bathurst	2
T. Nixon, not out	1
W. Clarke, c and b Bathurst	0
B. 6, l. b. 7, w. 6, n. b. 2	21
	207

The Players winning in one innings and 14 runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 19, 20, *and* 21, 1852.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Nicholson, Esq., b Dean	31	b Grundy	28
E. Napper, Esq., b Grundy	11	c Caffyn, b Martingell	2
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Dean	9	st Box, b Martingell	14
H. Vernon, Esq., b Martingell	1	b Grundy	30
Hon. S. Ponsonby, b Grundy	32	b Wisden	0
N. Felix, Esq., c Chatterton, b Clarke	15	c Dean, b Grundy	1
A. Mynn, Esq., b Clarke	15	c Chatterton, b Clarke	5
J. Walker, Esq., b Grundy	0	c Martingell, b Dean	58
G. Yonge, Esq., b Grundy	1	not out	22
E. Balfour, Esq., not out	1	b Wisden	12
Sir F. Bathurst, b Grundy	2	b Martingell	2
L. b. 3, w. 1	4	B. 7, l. b. 5, w. 1	13
	122		187

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Dean, c Yonge, b Bathurst	11	c Nicholson, b Yonge	12
J. Wisden, c Bathurst, b Yonge	6	run out	2
J. Guy, c Bathurst, b Yonge	36	b Yonge	5
G. Parr, b Yonge	3	not out	46
W. Caffyn, c Nicholson, b Walker	13	c Felix, b Mynn	9
T. Box, c Ponsonby, b Walker	39	c Ponsonby, b Walker	6
W. Martingell, c Haygarth, b Yonge	20	not out	3
J. Grundy, not out	69		
G. Chatterton, c Ponsonby, b Bathurst	2		
T. Nixon, c Nicholson, b Bathurst	0		
W. Clarke, c Nicholson, b Bathurst	3		
B. 12, l. b. 4, w. 2	18	B. 4, l. b. 2, w. 1	7
	220		90

The Players winning by five wickets.

At LORD'S, *July* 18 *and* 19, 1853.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Nicholson, Esq., c Box, b Clarke	14	b Martingell	20
Hon. S. Ponsonby, b Clarke	0	b Clarke	0
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Martingell	18	st Chatterton, b Martingell	4
C. G. Wynch, Esq., c Bickley, b Martingell	8	b Martingell	1
E. Balfour, Esq., hit w, b. Clarke	13	run out	0
R. Hankey, Esq., b. Clarke	14	b Martingell	0
M. Kempson, Esq., run out	31	b Martingell	0
J. Walker, Esq., not out	20	b Martingell	2
H. M. Aitken, Esq., c Bickley, b Nixon	0	b Clarke	3
C. H. Ridding, Esq., c Adams, b Clarke	6	not out	3
Sir F. Bathurst, c Parr, b Nixon	0	b Martingell	3
B. 1, l. b. 4, w. 1, n. b. 4	10	No ball	1
	134		37

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
T. Adams, c and b Kempson	2	c Ponsonby, b Bathurst	23
J. Dean, c and b Bathurst	1	c Ponsonby, b Bathurst	3
J. Grundy, b Bathurst	3	c Walker, b Bathurst	0
W. Caffyn, c Wynch, b Bathurst	10	b Kempson	5
G. Parr, c Kempson, b Bathurst	7	st Nicholson, b Kempson	7
T. Box, c Bathurst, b Kempson	4	b Bathurst	1
W. Martingell, 1 b w, b Kempson	1	b Bathurst	16
G. Chatterton, c Balfour, b Kempson	10	c Ponsonby, b Bathurst	7
T. Nixon, b Bathurst	1	c Aitken, b Kempson	2
J. Bickley, c Haygarth, b Kempson	0	b Kempson	0
W. Clarke, not out	1	not out	0
L. b. 1, w. 1	2	L. b. 4, w. 1	5
	42		69

The Gentlemen winning by 60 runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 17 *and* 18, 1854.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Nicholson, Esq., c Bickley, b Wisden	11	c Lockyer, b Wisden	14
Hon. S. Ponsonby, c Lockyer, b Wisden	25	run out	2
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Grundy	6	b Grundy	6
H. Vernon, Esq., b Wisden	2	b Martingell	7
C. G. Wynch, Esq., b Grundy	20	not out	20
E. Balfour, Esq., b Wisden	1	l b w, b Grundy	11
Fredk. Walker, Esq., b Grundy	9	b Wisden	4
E. T. Drake, Esq., c Wisden, b Martingell	6	c Challen, b Wisden	0
C. D. Marsham, Esq., b Martingell	1	c Challen, b Wisden	1
Sir F. Bathurst, b Wisden	12	b Bickley	0
A. Payne, Esq., not out	0	b Bickley	4
Byes	2	Leg byes	2
	95		71

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Dean, b Drake	27	not out	4
J. Grundy, b Bathurst	1		
John Lillywhite, st Nicholson, b Drake	6	not out	16
T. Lockyer, c Balfour, b Payne	14		
J. Wisden, b Payne	18		
W. Martingell, run out	3		
T. Adams, b Drake	23		
F. Clifford, b. Payne	15		
W. Mortlock, not out	19	st Nicholson, b Drake	0
James Challen, jun., b Marsham	11		
J. Bickley, st Nicholson, b Drake	2		
B. 7, w. 2	9	Byes, &c.	0
	148		20

The Players winning by nine wickets.

At LORD'S, *July* 23, 24, *and* 25, 1855.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Hon. S. Ponsonby, run out	7	c Caffyn, b Dean	5
W. Nicholson, Esq., c Lockyer, b Wisden	0	c Parr, b Lillywhite	6
H. Nicholson, Esq., b Wisden	2	c Bickley, b Dean	3
F. Miller, Esq., b Lillywhite	24	c Lockyer, b Dean	7
R. Hankey, Esq., b Grundy	13	run out	0
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Dean	47	c and b Lillywhite	8
A. Payne, Esq., c and b Caffyn	39	b Lillywhite	0
J. Walker, Esq., b Lillywhite	10	not out	0
W. Fellowes, Esq., l b w, b Dean	9	c Bickley, b Lillywhite	0
E. T. Drake, Esq., not out	33	c Chatterton, b Lillywhite	7
C. D. Marsham, Esq., c Dean, b Grundy	29	b Lillywhite	6
B. 2, l. b. 11	13	Wide	1
	226		43

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Grundy, l b w, b Marsham	20	c Miller, b Drake	19
H. Royston, c Walker, b Drake	1	not out	0
G. Chatterton, c Drake, b Marsham	17		
J. Dean, run out	3		
G. Parr, b Hankey	77		
J. Lillywhite, c Payne, b Hankey	25	l b w, b Marsham	7
W. Caffyn, b Fellowes	18	not out	13
G. Anderson, b Drake	5		
J. Wisden, not out	23	c Miller, b Marsham	3
T. Lockyer, c Miller, b Hankey	16		
J. Bickley, b Marsham	0		
B. 8, l. b. 3, w. 6	17	B. 4, w. 3	7
	222		49

The Players winning by seven wickets.

At LORD'S, *July* 21 *and* 22, 1856.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
C. D. Marsham, Esq., c Lockyer, b Wisden	5	b Willsher	3
Hon. S. Ponsonby, c Dean, b Wisden	6	b Martingell	20
W. Nicholson, Esq., b Willsher	10	b Wisden	2
A. Payne, Esq., b Willsher	7	b Willsher	7
F. Walker, Esq., b Wisden	3	b Wisden	9
R. Hankey, Esq., c Cæsar, b Willsher	8	b Wisden	22
F. Miller, Esq., b Willsher	0	b Wisden	5
H. W. Fellowes, Esq., st Lockyer, b Willsher	1	run out	10
E. T. Drake, Esq., c Wright, b Wisden	3	not out	24
T. Fuller, Esq., run out	0	c Wisden, b Willsher	4
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	2	b Willsher	16
B. 2, l. b. 3	5	B. 6, l. b. 5	11
	50		133

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Cæsar, c Hankey, b Marsham	51	c Marsham, b Payne	5
J. Grundy, c F. Walker, b Marsham	1	c Marsham, b Payne	0
J. Lillywhite, run out	2	b Marsham	5
G. Parr, b Payne	23	c Hankey, b Payne	27
W. Caffyn, c Marsham, b Payne	10	c Hankey, b Payne	0
J. Wisden, st Nicholson, b Payne	2	b Marsham	0
H. Wright, c Payne, b Marsham	1	b Marsham	0
T. Lockyer, c V. Walker, b Payne	6	not out	2
E. Willsher, b Payne	2	not out	8
J. Dean, not out	1	b Payne	15
W. Martingell, b Payne	3		
B. 5, w. 7	12	B. 3, l. b. 1, w. 4	8
	114		70

The Players winning by two wickets.

At the OVAL, *July* 2 *and* 3, 1857.*

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Cæsar, b C. D. Marsham	10		
J. Grundy, b C. D. Marsham	56		
W. Caffyn, c J. Walker, b Miller	1		
J. Lillywhite, b V. E. Walker	14		
G. Parr, b C. D. Marsham	14		
H. H. Stephenson, c and b V. E. Walker	12		
G. Anderson, st J. Walker, b V. E. Walker	6		
J. Wisden, c F. Walker, b Miller	46		
T. Lockyer, b V. E. Walker	0		
F. Bell, c A. H. Walker, b Miller	17	not out	0
J. Dean, not out	6	not out	7
B. 1, l. b. 1	2	Byes, &c.	0
	184		7

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
F. Walker, Esq., b Caffyn	3	c Lockyer, b Stephenson	2
E. T. Drake, Esq., b Wisden	2	b Bell	20
A. Haygarth, Esq., run out	2	b Wisden	1
F. Burbidge, Esq., c Parr, b Wisden	16	not out	22
A. H. Walker, Esq., c Stephenson, b Caffyn	5	c Lillywhite, b Bell	1
C. Marsham, Esq., b Wisden	0	c and b Bell	5
C. D. Marsham, Esq., c Lockyer, b Wisden	8	c Stephenson, b Bell	4
C. G. Lane, Esq., b Wisden	6	c Lillywhite, b Wisden	11
F. P. Miller, Esq., b Wisden	4	run out	44
J. Walker, Esq., not out	10	b Caffyn	5
V. E. Walker, Esq., c and b Caffyn	5	c Lockyer, b Stephenson	2
Leg byes	2	B. 2, l. b. 4, w. 1, n. b. 1	8
	63		125

The Players winning by ten wickets.

* The first match played on the Surrey Ground.

At LORD'S, *July* 13 *and* 14, 1857.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Dean, b McCormick	0	b Walker	1
J. Cæsar, st Nicholson, b Marsham	46	c Fellowes, b Marsham	8
H. H. Stephenson, st Nicholson, b Walker	28	c McCormick, b Walker	0
W. Caffyn, c and b Walker	4	c Hankey, b Walker	11
G. Parr, b Payne	32	b Payne	14
J. Lillywhite, b Payne	14	not out	36
J. Wisden, c Marsham, b Payne	16	run out	5
J. Grundy, b Marsham	17	b Marsham	3
T. Lockyer, b Walker	12	c Marsham, b McCormick	28
E. Willsher, st Nicholson, b Walker	3	b Walker	2
J. Jackson, not out	1	st Nicholson, b Walker	0
B. 16, l. b. 4, w. 4, n. b. 2	26	B 8, l. b. 3, w. 3	14
	199		122

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Hon. S. Ponsonby, b Willsher	4	c Jackson, b Parr	9
J. McCormick, Esq., b Wisden	4	b Willsher	0
A. Haygarth, Esq., not out	53	b Willsher	7
R. Hankey, Esq., c Willsher, b Stephenson	70	c Grundy, b Willsher	18
E. T. Drake, Esq., b Willsher	0	c Caffyn, b Willsher	53
W. Nicholson, Esq., b. Willsher	6	b Jackson	6
C. D. Marsham, Esq., c Lockyer, b Stephenson	7	not out	5
A. Payne, Esq., run out	5	b Caffyn	0
C. G. Lane, Esq., c Caffyn, b Parr	22	b Willsher	1
H. W. Fellowes, Esq., c Caffyn, b Willsher	0	run out	1
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Jackson	11	b Caffyn	0
B. 8, l. b. 2, w. 1, n. b. 1	12	Byes	14
	194		114

The Players winning by 13 runs.

At the OVAL, *July* 1, 1858.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
F. P. Miller, Esq., c Caffyn, b Jackson	17	c Lockyer, b Jackson	0
C. G. Lane, Esq., b Martingell	47	b Stephenson	18
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Wisden	24	absent.	
J. Mason, Esq., c and b Martingell	14	b Jackson	13
E. Napper, Esq., c Grundy, b Jackson	0	run out	15
G. L. Hodgkinson, Esq., b Jackson	3	b Stephenson	5
R. Daft, Esq., b Jackson	0	c Cæsar, b Martingell	38
F. Burbidge, Esq., c Lockyer, b Jackson	16	c and b Jackson	8
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Jackson	17	b Martingell	51
J. Walker, Esq., b Martingell	4	l b w, b Wisden	0
H. Frere, Esq., not out	2	not out	4
B 2, l. b. 5, n. b. 7	14	B. 6, l. b. 13	19
	158		171

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Wisden, b Frere	42	c Mason, b Frere	46
J. Lillywhite, b Miller	14	not out	49
A. Diver, c Burbidge, b Miller	0	c and b V. E. Walker	9
W. Caffyn, c Burbidge, b Hodgkinson	27	c Daft, b V. Walker	9
T. Lockyer, c Burbidge, b Miller	5	b Frere	5
J. Grundy, c Burbidge, b Napper	20	c Daft, b V. Walker	0
J. Cæsar, b Frere	7	not out	14
H. Stephenson, not out	13	b V. E. Walker	16
G. Anderson, c Burbidge, b Napper	5	b Frere	8
J. Jackson, c J. Walker, b Napper	0		
W. Martingell, run out	6		
B. 8, l. b. 6, w. 7	21	B 5, l. b. 4, w. 5	14
	160		170

The Players winning by three wickets.

At LORD'S, *July* 19, 1858.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
A. Diver, b Payne	19	b Marsham	65
J. Grundy, b. Walker	3	c and b Walker	23
J. Jackson, c Walker, b Marsham	18	c Nicholson, b Marsham	6
G. Parr, st Nicholson, b Walker	9	c Lane, b Miller	25
H. Stephenson, l b w, b Walker	0	b Walker	1
R. Tinley, c Drake, b Walker	11	c Miller, b Walker	0
W. Caffyn, b Marsham	0	c Drake, b Walker	0
J. Wisden, not out	21	c Lane, b Marsham	58
E. Willsher, b Marsham	18	b Walker	12
T. Lockyer, b Walker	3	c Haygarth, b Ponsonby	34
F. Bell, b Walker	5	not out	33
B. 3, w. 5	8	B. 15, l. b. 7, w. 19, n. b. 1	42
	115		299

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
F. Miller, Esq., b Jackson	3	b Stephenson	1
Hon. S. Ponsonby, run out	10	b Jackson	1
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Jackson	2	b Stephenson	0
C. G. Lane, Esq., c Lockyer, b Jackson	1	b Stephenson	20
F. Norman, Esq., b Tinley	3	l b w, b Jackson	5
V. E. Walker, Esq., c Lockyer, b Jackson	4	c and b Caffyn	2
E. T. Drake, Esq., run out	1	c Caffyn, b Stephenson	1
A. Payne, Esq., b Jackson	6	b Tinley	0
J. Fuller, Esq., c Parr, b Tinley	0	b Tinley	0
C. D. Marsham, Esq., c Stephenson, b Tinley	11	not out	11
W. Nicholson, Esq., not out	6	c Wisden, b Caffyn	22
B. 4, l. b. 1	5	B. 13, l. b. 1	14
	52		77

The Players winning by 285 runs.

At the OVAL, *June* 30, 1859.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. H. Hale, Esq., c Lockyer, b Jackson	6	b Parr	30
F. P. Miller, Esq., c and b Stephenson	10	c Parr, b Jackson	12
W. H. Benthall, Esq., c Lockyer, b Parr	32	c Parr, b Jackson	7
C. G. Lane, Esq., st Lockyer, b Parr	21	st Lockyer, b Parr	6
A. Rowley, Esq., c Cæsar, b Jackson	47	not out	6
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Jackson	8	c Wisden, b Jackson	11
E. B. Fawcett, Esq., b Jackson	12	c Stephenson, b Parr	0
V. E. Walker, Esq., run out	14	c and b Parr	10
J. Walker, Esq., c Parr, b Jackson	1	c Wisden, b Parr	0
H. Frere, Esq., not out	2	b Jackson	6
W. P. Lockhart, Esq., b Stephenson	1	st Lockyer, b Parr	0
B 3, l. b. 4, w. 1	8	Byes	3
	162		91

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
R. Carpenter, c Hale, b V. E. Walker	44
J. Cæsar, b V. E. Walker	4
T. Lockyer, c Hale, b V. E. Walker	16
W. Caffyn, c Fawcett, b Frere	16
G. Parr, c Fawcett, b Frere	73
J. Lillywhite, b V. E. Walker	35
H. Stephenson, st Lockhart, b V. E. Walker	18
A. Diver, b Frere	1
J. Wisden, st Lockhart, b Fawcett	24
E. Willsher, not out	20
J. Jackson, b V. E. Walker	3
B. 11, l. b. 10, w. 3	24
	278

The Players winning by one innings and 25 runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 18, 19, *and* 20, 1859.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
A. Diver, b C. D. Marsham	7	b C. D. Marsham	0
J. Wisden, b C. D. Marsham	1	b C. D. Marsham	25
E. Willsher, c and b C. D. Marsham	8	not out	19
W. Caffyn, b Traill	15	c C. D. Marsham, b Miller	0
J. Grundy, c Sandford, b C. D. Marsham	56	l b w, b Miller	4
R. Carpenter, c R. Marsham, b C. D. Marsham	13	run out	17
J. Lillywhite, c and b Walker	0	c Haygarth, b C. D. Marsham	0
T. Lockyer, b Miller	33	c Benthall, b Walker	26
H. Stephenson, c Walker, b C. D. Marsham	3	c and b C. D. Marsham	41
C. Brampton, not out	32	c Walker, b Miller	17
J. Jackson, b Walker	41	c Lane, b Walker	1
B. 13, l. b. 3, w. 1	17	B. 9, l. b. 8	17
	226		167

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Hale, Esq., c Caffyn, b Willsher	18	b Willsher	1
E. G. Sandford, Esq., b Jackson	28	b Willsher	13
R. Marsham, Esq., b Willsher	3	b Willsher	1
F. P. Miller, Esq., b Stephenson	53	c Willsher, b Jackson	0
A. Haygarth, Esq., b Stephenson	0	run out	0
C. G. Lane, Esq., b Stephenson	0	c Grundy, b Willsher	7
W. Benthall, Esq., c Grundy, b Jackson	11	b Jackson	11
E. T. Drake, Esq., b Stephenson	0	b Willsher	15
V. E. Walker, Esq., c Wisden, b Jackson	2	not out	7
C. D. Marsham, Esq., not out	22	b Jackson	0
W. F. Traill, Esq., b Jackson	12	b Jackson	0
B. 9, l. b. 5, w. 1	15	Leg byes	5
	164		60

The Players winning by 169 runs.

At the OVAL, *July 5 and* 6, 1860.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
R. Carpenter, c Walker, b Fawcett	119		
J. Lillywhite, c Makinson, b Miller	46		
T. Hayward, b Miller	12	not out	20
W. Caffyn, c and b Walker	16		
G. Parr, c Benthall, b Miller	33		
R. Daft, b Fawcett	1	c Fawcett, b Makinson	12
J. Cæsar, b Makinson	43		
H. Stephenson, c Benthall, b Miller	10		
T. Lockyer, b Makinson	2		
G. Griffith, c Waud, b Makinson	18	not out	32
J. Jackson, not out	13	b Fawcett	11
B. 3, l. b. 7, w. 5	15	L. b. 3, w. 2	5
	328		80

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn
C. G. Wynch, Esq., b Jackson	9	b Hayward	14
T. E. Bagge, Esq., b Jackson	62	b Caffyn	60
C. G. Lane, Esq., run out	1	c Lockyer, b Caffyn	0
J. Makinson, Esq., c Parr, b Caffyn	5	c Daft, b Stephenson	49
W. H. Benthall, Esq., c Lockyer, b Hayward	45	b Caffyn	3
B. Waud, Esq., c Carpenter, b Jackson	0	not out	39
E. B. Fawcett, Esq., c Jackson, b Hayward	0	b Carpenter	3
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Jackson	12	c Carpenter, b Caffyn	18
W. F. Traill, Esq., c Lockyer, b Hayward	1	st Lockyer, b Caffyn	5
F. P. Miller, Esq., not out	16	b Caffyn	35
A. Rowley, Esq., c Griffiths, b Hayward	4	b Caffyn	6
L. b. 3, w. 2	5	B 3, l. b. 6, w. 4	13
	160		245

The Players winning by eight wickets.

At LORD'S, *July* 9, 10, *and* 11, 1860.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
R. Daft, c Hale, b Walker	39
R. Carpenter, run out	2
T. Hayward, st Waud, b Walker	132
W. Caffyn, b Lang	8
J. Grundy, c Walker, b R. Marsham	15
A. Diver, c C. D. Marsham, b R. Marsham	1
J. Cæsar, b R. Marsham	0
J. Lillywhite, b Lang	66
E. Willsher, c Traill, b Makinson	73
T. Lockyer, c Lane, b Walker	21
J. Jackson, not out	5
B. 29, l. b. 2, w. 1	32
	394

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. H. Hale, Esq., c Jackson, b Caffyn	34	c Carpenter, b Willsher	0
R. Marsham, Esq., run out	2	c Jackson, b Willsher	12
B. Waud, Esq., b Jackson	3	b Jackson	8
J. Makinson, Esq., b Jackson	2	b Jackson	0
C. G. Lane, Esq., run out	40	c Jackson, b Willsher	1
R. Hankey, Esq., b Jackson	1	b Willsher	4
A. Rowley, Esq., b Willsher	37	c Hayward, b Jackson	23
W. F. Traill, Esq., b Willsher	4	c Lockyer, b Willsher	0
C. D. Marsham, Esq., c Caffyn, b Grundy	2	b Jackson	7
R. Lang, Esq., c Willsher, b Grundy	1	b Willsher	6
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	0	not out	0
B. 5, l. b. 6	11	B. 11, l. b. 4	15
	137		76

The Players winning in one innings and 181 runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 1 *and* 2, 1861.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
R. Daft, c Marshall, b Lyttelton	65
E. Willsher, b Marsham	22
J. Grundy, b Miller	8
T. Hayward, c Traill, b Lyttelton	9
R. Carpenter, c and b Walker	51
G. Parr, b Traill	3
W. Caffyn, c Oliphant, b Traill	11
G. Griffith, c Lyttelton, b Marsham	7
T. Lockyer, c Johnson, b Walker	28
J. Jackson, c Oliphant, b Lyttelton	17
R. C. Tinley, not out	4
B. 10, l. b. 10, n. b. 1	21
	246

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Traill, Esq., c Caffyn, b Jackson	2	not out	5
T. P. Garnier, Esq., b Willsher	5	b Willsher	9
H. M. Marshall, Esq., b Jackson	9	run out	5
C. G. Lane, Esq., c and b Jackson	9	c Caffyn, b Jackson	4
G. R. Johnson, Esq., b Willsher	4	c Jackson, b Willsher	14
W. H. Benthall, Esq., b Willsher	0	run out	24
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Jackson	4	run out	6
F. P. Miller, Esq., b Jackson	12	b Jackson	20
C. Marsham, Esq., b Jackson	6	b Jackson	20
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	4	b Jackson	6
J. S. Oliphant, Esq., b Willsher	1	b Jackson	0
B. 7, l. b. 7	14	B. 2, l. b. 1	3
	70		70

The Players winning in one innings and 60 runs.

At the Oval, *July* 4, 5, *and* 6, 1861.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
R. Daft, c Bagge, b A. H. Walker	31
J. Cæsar, c J. Walker, b Lyttelton	22
R. Carpenter, c Garnier, b Lee	106
T. Hayward, c Benthall, b Miller	83
G. Parr, c J. Walker, b Lyttelton	28
W. Caffyn, c Bagge, b Lyttelton	0
G. Griffith, b Lee	0
T. Lockyer, c Bagge, b V. E. Walker	31
H. Stephenson, c Dowson, b Miller	27
J. Jackson, c Lee, b Miller	14
E. Willsher, not out	9
B. 2, l. b. 4, w. 1	7
	358

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
T. E. Bagge, Esq., run out	3	c Jackson, b Willsher	7
T. E. Garnier, Esq., run out	4	b Griffith	15
H. M. Marshall, Esq., b Willsher	5	absent.	
W. H. Benthall, Esq., c Lockyer, b Caffyn	5	b Griffith	9
J. Walker, Esq., c Cæsar	48	c Lockyer, b Parr	22
E. Dowson, Esq., run out	35	c Jackson, b Willsher	2
F. Lee, Esq., c Caffyn, b Parr	5	not out	16
V. E. Walker, Esq., l b w, b Parr	0	b Jackson	17
A. H. Walker, Esq., c Willsher, b Parr	0	c and b Parr	14
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Griffith	41	st Lockyer, b Willsher	8
F. P. Miller, Esq., not out	2	c Carpenter, b Griffith	11
B. 3, l. b. 3	6	B. 3, l. b. 11, w. 1	15
	154		136

The Players winning in one innings and 68 runs.

At the OVAL, *June* 26, 27, *and* 28, 1862.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. Dowson, Esq., b Hayward	13	b Griffith	12
E. B. Rowley, Esq., b Jackson	6	st Lockyer, b Hayward	5
H. M. Marshall, Esq., b Jackson	0	b Griffith	2
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Hayward	3	b Griffith	57
A. W. Daniel, Esq., run out	26	b Griffith	19
R. Lang, Esq., b Hayward	9	c Jackson, b Caffyn	0
F. Burbidge, Esq., b Tarrant	9	c Griffith, b Hayward	43
J. Walker, Esq., c Caffyn, b Hayward	98	c Carpenter, b Griffith	10
F. Lee, Esq., b. Caffyn	35	c Cæsar, b Griffith	2
F. P. Miller, Esq., c and b Hayward	55	c Carpenter, b Tarrant	38
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	5	not out	8
B. 5, l. b. 10, w. 1, n. b. 1	17	B. 7, l. b. 7, w. 1	15
	276		211

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Mortlock, run out	15	b Lyttelton	8
J. Cæsar, c Lyttelton, b Lang	16	c Marshall, b Lyttelton	1
G. Griffith, c Burbidge, b Lang	13	c J. Walker, b Lyttelton	7
T. Hayward, c Marshall, b V. E. Walker	77	c Burbidge, b V. E. Walker	31
R. Carpenter, c J. Walker, b V. E. Walker	4	c V. E. Walker, b Lyttelton	43
W. Caffyn, b Lang	5	b V. E. Walker	23
G. Anderson, c and b Lyttelton	19	not out	33
H. H. Stephenson, c and b. V. E. Walker	27	not out	33
T. Lockyer, c and b V. E. Walker	6		
J. Jackson, not out	35	run out	10
G. Tarrant, c V. E. Walker, b Miller	11	b V. E. Walker	3
B 5, l. b. 6, w. 5	16	B. 10, l. b. 3, w. 6	19
	244		211

Drawn.

At LORD'S, *June* 29 *and* 30, 1863.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. Willsher, st Lyttelton, b R. D. Walker	5		
J. Grundy, b Traill	7		
R. Carpenter, c Traill, b Voules	1		
T. Hayward, not out	112		
G. Parr, c Lyttelton, b R. D. Walker	5		
G. Tarrant, b Grace	12	not out	2
C. Ellis, b Grace	9	not out	0
T. Bignall, c and b Grace	24	b Grace	1
T. Hearne, b Voules	17	run out	5
J. Jackson, b Grace	9		
G. Wootton, c Mitchell, b Grace	0		
B. 19, l. b. 5, w. 5, n. b. 1	30	Wide	1
	231		9

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., b. Jackson	7	b Tarrant	5
Hon. T. De Grey, b Tarrant	2	b Jackson	8
W. H. Benthall, Esq., b Jackson	27	b Wootton	8
A. W. Daniel, Esq., b Tarrant	3	b Tarrant	18
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Tarrant	28	b Jackson	5
R. A. Mitchell, Esq., run out	20	b Jackson	0
R. D. Walker, Esq., b Jackson	3	b Jackson	0
W. F. Traill, Esq., c Tarrant, b Jackson	0	b Tarrant	13
F. W. Wright, Esq., b Tarrant	0	b Wootton	13
V. E. Walker, Esq , not out	3	c Carpenter, b Jackson	30
S. C. Voules, Esq., b Tarrant	1	not out	9
B. 8, l. b. 11	19	B. 13, l. b. 4	17
	119		126

The Players winning by eight wickets.

CHAPTER XI.

A CHAPTER ON BOWLING.

BOWLING consists of two parts: there is the mechanical part, and the intellectual part. First, you want the hand to pitch where you please, and then the head to know where to pitch according to the player.

To Learn the Art of Bowling.—1. First, consult with some great bowler, and fix on one, and one only, plan of holding the ball, manageable pace, and general style of delivery. Consult and experiment till you have chosen the style that suits the play of your muscles and your strength. If you choose a violent and laborious style, you will certainly become tired of it; but a style within your strength will be so delight that you will be always practising.

Secondly, having definitely ch and style of bowling, the next and form it into a habit: fo

a bowler's accuracy entirely depends. To form a steady habit of bowling, the nerves and muscles being a very delicate machinery, you must be careful to use them in one way, and one way only; for then they will come to serve you truly and mechanically; but, even a few hours spent in loose play—in bowling with few steps or many, or with a new mode of delivery—will often establish conflicting habits, or call into action a new set of muscles, to interfere with the muscles on which you mainly depend. Many good players (including the most destructive of the Gentlemen's Eleven!) have lost their bowling by these experiments: many more have been thrown back when near perfection. Therefore,

2. Never bowl a single ball but in your chosen and adopted form and style—with the same steps, and with the ball held in the same way. "If these seem small things, habit is not [illegible] thing." Also, never go on when yo[illegible] tired to command yo[illegible] twisting yourself [illegible] and conflicting [illegible] little, and ofte[illegible] you spoil th[illegible] said of b[illegible] and h[illegible]

At LORD'S, *July* 14 *and* 15, 1862.

PLAYERS UNDER THIRTY YEARS OF AGE.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
R. Iddison, b C. D. Marsham	11	c Grace, b C. D. Marsham	62
T. Robinson, c Lang, b C. D. Marsham	8	b C. D. Marsham	0
J. Chatterton, c Johnson, b C. D. Marsham	5	c Lyttelton, b C. D. Marsham	0
T. Hayward, b C. D. Marsham	0	c Mitchell, b Arkwright	50
R. Daft, b Lang	4	b C. D. Marsham	19
J. Jackson, c Arkwright, b C. D. Marsham	19	run out	8
G. Tarrant, b Arkwright	27	c Grace, b C. D. Marsham	39
J. Lillywhite, jun., b Lang	8	b Lang	5
R. Fillery, b C. D. Marsham	2	c Daniel, b Arkwright	27
S. Biddulph, b Arkwright	9	not out	20
G. Wootton, not out	4	b Grace	5
B. 5, l. b. 5, w. 3	13	B. 3, l. b. 4, w. 3, n. b. 1	11
	110		246

GENTLEMEN UNDER THIRTY YEARS OF AGE.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., c. Jackson, b Wootton	25	b Tarrant	7
R. Marsham, Esq., b Tarrant	24	c Wootton, b Lillywhite	0
W. H. Benthall, Esq., st Biddulph, b Iddison	33	b Lillywhite	0
R. A. Mitchell, Esq., b Tarrant	0	b Lillywhite	2
A. W. Daniel, Esq, not out	12	c Daft, b Lillywhite	18
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Tarrant	16	c Wootton, b Lillywhite	7
G. R. Johnson, Esq., c Biddulph, b Tarrant	8	c Jackson, b Tarrant	5
H. M. Marshall, Esq., b. Tarrant	0	c Iddison, b Lillywhite	1
R. Lang, Esq., b Tarrant	0	c Robinson, b Lillywhite	10
C. D Marsham, Esq., run out	3	not out	7
H. Arkwright, Esq., l b w, b Tarrant	0	b Lillywhite	2
B. 2, l. b. 5, n. b. 2	9	Byes	10
	130		69

The Players winning by 157 runs.

At LORD'S, *June* 29 *and* 30, 1863.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. Willsher, st Lyttelton, b R. D. Walker	5		
J. Grundy, b Traill	7		
R. Carpenter, c Traill, b Voules	1		
T. Hayward, not out	112		
G. Parr, c Lyttelton, b R. D. Walker	5		
G. Tarrant, b Grace	12	not out	2
C. Ellis, b Grace	9	not out	0
T. Bignall, c and b Grace	24	b Grace	1
T. Hearne, b Voules	17	run out	5
J. Jackson, b Grace	9		
G. Wootton, c Mitchell, b Grace	0		
B. 19, l. b. 5, w. 5, n. b. 1	30	Wide	1
	231		9

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., b. Jackson	7	b Tarrant	5
Hon. T. De Grey, b Tarrant	2	b Jackson	8
W. H. Benthall, Esq., b Jackson	27	b Wootton	8
A. W. Daniel, Esq., b Tarrant	3	b Tarrant	18
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Tarrant	28	b Jackson	5
R. A. Mitchell, Esq., run out	20	b Jackson	0
R. D. Walker, Esq., b Jackson	3	b Jackson	0
W. F. Traill, Esq., c Tarrant, b Jackson	0	b Tarrant	13
F. W. Wright, Esq., b Tarrant	0	b Wootton	13
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	3	c Carpenter, b Jackson	30
S. C. Voules, Esq., b Tarrant	1	not out	9
B. 8, l. b. 11	19	B. 13, l. b. 4	17
	119		126

The Players winning by eight wickets.

At the OVAL, *July* 2, 3, *and* 4, 1863.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
R. D. Walker, Esq., c Lockyer, b Caffyn	40	c Stephenson, b Hodgson	37
E. M. Grace, Esq., c Cæsar, b Atkinson	13	c and b Hodgson	31
R. A. Mitchell, Esq., c Cæsar, b Atkinson	76	b Griffith	6
A. W. Daniel, Esq., b Caffyn	0	run out	51
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, run out	7	b Griffith	23
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Willsher	26	b Caffyn	0
E. Dowson, Esq., b Atkinson	2	b Griffith	0
F. Burbidge, Esq., b Willsher	5	c Stephenson, b Griffith	16
A Rowley, Esq., not out	9	c Atkinson, b Caffyn	24
J. Walker, Esq., c Iddison, b Willsher	0	not out	2
F. P. Miller, Esq., b Willsher	0	c Stephenson, b Griffith	8
B. 3, l. b. 8	11	B. 3, l. b. 11, w. 1	15
	189		213

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. Mortlock, c V. E. Walker, b Grace	70		
T. Hearne, b V. E. Walker	36		
R. Iddison, c Rowley, b Grace	49	not out	18
G. Griffith, c Grace, b Rowley	0	not out	29
W. Caffyn, c V. E. Walker, b Grace	10		
H. H. Stephenson, c Grace, b Rowley	0	run out	5
E. Willsher, b Mitchell	77		
T. Lockyer, not out	76		
G. Atkinson, c Rowley, b Mitchell	8		
J. Cæsar, c R. D. Walker, b Grace	8		
I. Hodgson, b Grace	2		
B. 6, l. b. 5, w. 6	17	Leg bye	1
	353		53

The Players winning by nine wickets.

At the OVAL, *June* 23, 24, *and* 25, 1864.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Rowbotham, c Lyttelton, b Maitland	16	c Bull, b V. E. Walker	57
G. Griffith, c and b Maitland	25	c Burbidge, b Makinson	10
W. Mortlock, c Daniel, b Maitland	15	c Burbidge, b V. E. Walker	78
R. Daft, c Burbidge, b Kelson	61	c and b Makinson	19
R. Iddison, c R. D. Walker, b Maitland	20	run out	9
H. H. Stephenson, c and b Kelson	26	c and b R. D. Walker	117
T. Hearne, not out	45	c Daniel, b Mitchell	24
T. Lockyer, c Maitland, b V. E. Walker	6	c Lyttelton, b V. E. Walker	24
E. Willsher, c Makinson, b Kelson	8	c R. D. Walker, b Maitland	13
T. Sewell, jun., c and b Maitland	15	c Makinson, b V. E. Walker	2
G. Wootton, c Daniel, b Kelson	6	not out	2
L. b.	1	B. 13, l. b. 1, w. b. 2	16
	244		371

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
H. E. Bull, Esq., c Willsher, b Sewell	9	c Griffith, b Mortlock	10
E. W. Tritton, Esq., b Willsher	0	c Willsher, b Griffith	0
R. D. Walker, Esq., c Willsher, b Griffith	25	b Wootton	0
F. Burbidge, Esq., c Willsher, b Griffith	39	c Daft, b Wootton	27
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, Esq., b Griffith	9	b Willsher	81
R. A. H. Mitchell, Esq., b Griffith	0	absent	0
A. W. T. Daniel, Esq., c and b Willsher	11	c Iddison, b Griffith	0
J. Makinson, Esq., not out	64	st Lockyer, b Wootton	0
G. M. Kelson, Esq., b Mortlock	8	st Lockyer, b Mortlock	21

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
V. E. Walker, Esq., c Stephenson, b Mortlock	16	not out	47
W. F. Maitland, Esq., b Willsher	4	run out	14
B. 11, l. b. 5	16	B. 2, l. b. 6, w. 1	9
	201		209

The Players winning by 205 runs.

At LORD'S, *June* 27 *and* 28, 1864.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
W. Mortlock, c Burbidge, b Arkwright	71
E. Willsher, c Voules, b Arkwright	19
R. Daft, b Arkwright	7
T. Hayward, b Traill	6
R. Carpenter, c Lyttelton, b Arkwright	2
G. Parr, c Bull, b Arkwright	2
G. Tarrant, st Round, b Arkwright	10
T. Lockyer, b Traill	1
G. Anderson, not out	20
J. Jackson, c Traill, b Arkwright	8
R. C. Tinley, b Traill	16
B. 4, l. b. 1, w. 2	7
	187

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
J. Round, Esq., b Tarrant	5	not out	9
S. C. Voules, Esq., b Willsher	5	b Willsher	4
H. E. Bull, Esq., b Tarrant	2	b Willsher	7
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Willsher	5	b Tarrant	1
F. Burbidge, Esq., b Tarrant	1	b Tarrant	6
A. W. T. Daniel, Esq., c Anderson, b Willsher	7	b Tarrant	3
Rev. E. T. Trake, b Tarrant	13	b Willsher	0
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	6	c Carpenter, b Willsher	19
Rev. A. Payne, b Willsher	2	b Willsher	1
W. F. Traill, Esq., c Anderson, b Tarrant	8	b Tarrant	0
H. Arkwright, Esq., 1 b w, b Tarrant	0	b Willsher	0
B. 3, l. b. 3.	6	B. 6, l. b. 3	9
	60		59

The Players winning by one innings, with 68 runs to spare.

At the OVAL, *July* 3, 4, *and* 5, 1865.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
H. Jupp, c and b W. G. Grace	43	l. b. w. b. R. D. Walker	16
T. Humphrey, c V. E. Walker, b R. D. Walker	64	c Lyttelton, b E. M. Grace	58
A. Shaw, run out	18	c E. M. Grace, b W. G. Grace	8
G. Bennett, c Mitchell, b E. M. Grace	3	c I. D. Walker, b W. G. Grace	16
H. H. Stephenson, b R. D. Walker	3	b Wilkinson	4
T. Hearne, c Wilkinson, b W. G. Grace	2	c V. E. Walker, b E. M. Grace	77
L. Greenwood, b W. G. Grace	5	c Lyttelton, b E. M. Grace	31
G. Griffith, c Mitchell, b Wilkinson	35	c R. D. Walker, b E. M. Grace	11
W. Mortlock, not out	38	c R. D. Walker, b W. G. Grace	26
T. Lockyer, c E. M. Grace, b R. D. Walker	0	not out	18
E. Willsher, b R. D. Walker	6	c Lyttelton, b R. D. Walker	6
B. 5, l. b. 4	9	B. 4, l. b. 7, w. b. 2	13
	231		284

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Bennett	8	run out	20
E. M. Grace, Esq., c Lockyer, b Bennett	8	b Willsher	10
R. D. Walker, Esq., b Willsher	3	c Willsher, b Bennett	92
A. J. Wilkinson, Esq., b Bennett	3	c Willsher, b Bennett	21
R. A. H. Mitchell, Esq., b Shaw	53	c Lockyer, b Willsher	33
C. F. Buller, Esq., c Lockyer, b Willsher	17	c and b Shaw	15

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
I. D. Walker, Esq., b Willsher	6	b Shaw	0
W. G. Grace, Esq., b Shaw	23	not out	12
A. W. T. Daniel, Esq., b Bennett	21	c Hearne, b Bennett	8
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	14	c Bennett, b Shaw	15
F. Burbidge, Esq., b Bennett	4	c and b Shaw	2
B. 1, l. b. 2	3	B. 3, l. b. 3	6
	163		234

The Players winning by 118 runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 10 *and* 11, 1865.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
T. Humphrey, c Cooper, b E. M. Grace	38	c Lyttelton, b E. M. Grace	6
J. Smith, c V. E. Walker, b Evans	33	c Maitland, b Evans	18
W. Mortlock, c Mitchell, b E. M. Grace	4	c Mitchell, b E. M. Grace	0
T. Hayward, c and b E. M. Grace	9	c and b E. M. Grace	7
R. Carpenter, c Cooper, b Evans	1	b E. M. Grace	0
H. H. Stephenson, c Mitchell, b E. M. Grace	16	c E. M. Grace, b Evans	14
G. Parr, c Lyttelton, b Evans	13	st Cooper, b R. D. Walker	69
G. Bennett, c J. D. Walker, b E. M. Grace	2	c Lyttelton, b Maitland	7
J. Grundy, c W. G. Grace, b Evans	2	b E. M. Grace	3
G. Wootton, not out	7	b E. M. Grace	0
A. Shaw, c E. M. Grace, b Evans	0	not out	17
L. b. 3, w. b. 3, n. b. 1	7	L. b. 1, w. b. 7	8
	132		140

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E.M. Grace, Esq., l b w, b Grundy.	24	c Hayward, b Wootton	30
W. G. Grace, Esq., run out .	3	c Smith, b Wootton .	34
R. D. Walker, Esq., b Grundy .	18	not out . . .	1
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Bennett	24		
B. B. Cooper, Esq., c Shaw, b Hayward	70		
R. A. H. Mitchell, Esq., not out	44		
C. F. Buller, Esq., b Hayward .	0	not out . . .	8
F. R. Evans, Esq., b Wootton .	3		
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Wooton .	4		
J. D. Walker, Esq., c Carpenter, b Hayward . . .	0		
W. F. Maitland, Esq., st Stephenson, b Wootton . .	0		
B. 2, l. b. 3, w. b. 3 . .	8		
	198		77

The Gentlemen winning by eight wickets.

At LORD'S, *June* 25, 26, *and* 27, 1866.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
H. Jupp, b E. M. Grace . .	31	b W. G. Grace . .	54
T. Humphrey, b W. G. Grace .	4	c and b E. M. Grace .	6
G. Wootton, b W. G. Grace .	19	b E. M. Grace . .	8
G. Bennett, c R. D. Walker, b E. M. Grace	0	b Fellowes . .	21
J. Grundy, c Maitland, b W. G. Grace	14	c Fellowes, b Lyttelton	20
T. Hearne, b E. M. Grace .	16	not out . . .	122
E. Pooley, b E. M. Grace .	7	c Balfour, b W. G. Grace	3
James Lillywhite, c Lubbock, b E. M. Grace	14	c Lubbock, b E. M. Grace . . .	5
T. Lockyer, b E. M. Grace .	5	c Lubbock, b Maitland	4
E. Willsher, not out . .	0	c Balfour, b Maitland	1
G. Howitt, b W. G. Grace .	0	b Lyttelton . .	0
B. 1, l. b. 3, w. 2 . .	6	B. 2, l. b. 2, w. 2 .	9
	116		253

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, c Lockyer, b Lillywhite	6	b Willsher	19
E. M. Grace, Esq., c Wootton, b Howitt	7	b Howitt	25
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Hearne, b Bennett	25	c Wootton, b Bennett	11
C. F. Buller, Esq., c Howitt, b Lillywhite	1	run out	1
R. D. Walker, Esq., c Hearne, b Bennett	15	b Grundy	13
A. Lubbock, Esq., c Lockyer, b Bennett	13	b Bennett	15
A. H. Winter, Esq., b Bennett	9	b Lillywhite	16
W. F. Maitland, Esq., b Grundy	15	not out	15
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Grundy	3	b Howitt	10
R. D. Balfour, Esq., b Wootton	23	b Bennett	4
E. L. Fellowes, Esq., not out	16	b Bennett	2
B. 1, l. b. 2	3	B. 10, l. b. 4	14
	136		195

The Players winning by 38 runs.

At the OVAL, *June* 28, 29, *and* 30, 1866.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
H. Jupp, c Voules, b W. G. Grace	12	b W. G. Grace	18
W. Mortlock, c V. E. Walker, b E. M. Grace	0	c Lyttelton, b W. G. Grace	8
E. Pooley, c Buller, b R. D. Walker	3	b W. G. Grace	4
G. Wootton, run out	1	l b w, b W. G. Grace	5
T. Hearne, b V. E. Walker	47	c and b Maitland	41
T. Humphrey, c W. G. Grace, b E. M. Grace	15	c E. M. Grace, b W. G. Grace	0
G. Bennett, run out	10	l b w b Maitland	7
Jas. Lillywhite, b W. G. Grace	8	not out	2
L. Greenwood, st Lyttelton, b I. D. Walker	66	c Maitland, b E. M. Grace	5

1st Inn.		2nd Inn.	
A. Shaw, c Lyttelton, b E. M. Grace	70	c V. E. Walker, b W. G. Grace	0
E. Willsher, not out	14	c E. M. Grace, b. W. G. Grace	13
B. 2, l. b. 2	4	Wides	3
	250		106

THE GENTLEMEN.

1st Inn.		2nd Inn.	
Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, b Lillywhite	5	c Pooley, b Willsher	45
E. M. Grace, Esq., c Pooley, b Bennett	12	b Shaw	48
W. F. Maitland, Esq., c Bennett, b Lillywhite	25	c Pooley, b Greenwood	61
C. F. Buller, Esq., b Lillywhite	22	c Jupp, b Shaw	21
R. D. Walker, Esq., c Hearne, b Wootton	1	c Willsher, b Hearne	52
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Pooley, b Wootton	7	b Greenwood	34
I. D. Walker, Esq., l b w, b Wootton	9	c Pooley, b Wootton	12
S. C. Voules, Esq., b Wootton	9	c Wootton, b Shaw	23
A. H. Winter, Esq., c Hearne, b Wootton	2	b Lillywhite	19
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	13	b Wootton	9
G. M. Kelson, Esq., b Wootton	2	not out	13
B. 2, l. b. 2	4	B. 8, l. b. 7	15
	102		352

Gentlemen

The Players winning by 98 runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 8 *and* 9, 1867.

THE PLAYERS.

1st Inn.		2nd Inn.	
T. Humphrey, c R. D. Walker, b Appleby	0	c and b Appleby	13
H. Jupp, h w, b W. G. Grace	0	b W. G. Grace	0
G. Summers, b W. G. Grace	7	b W. G. Grace	7
A. Shaw, c Round, b Appleby	1	b W. G. Grace	7
E. Pooley, b W. G. Grace	18	c E. M. Grace, b W. G. Grace	7

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
T. Hearne, b Appleby	8	c R. D. Walker, b W. G. Grace	8
W. Mortlock, c Buller, b R. D. Walker	21	c Cooper, b W. G. Grace	2
G. Griffith, b Appleby	0	b W. G. Grace	13
James Lillywhite, b Appleby	17	b Appleby	0
J. Grundy, c W. G. Grace, b Appleby	0	c and b W. G. Grace	0
G. Wootton, not out	4	not out	0
B. 1, l. b. 1, w. 1	3	B. 2, l. b. 1, w. 1	4
	79		61

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., l b w, b Wootton	20	b Wootton	1
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Pooley, b Griffith	18	not out	37
A. Lubbock, Esq., c Grundy, b Griffith	3	not out	12
B. B. Cooper, Esq., b Wootton	9		
R. D. Walker, Esq., b Wootton	18		
C. F. Buller, Esq., c Griffith, b Grundy	2		
I. D. Walker, Esq., b Wootton	1	b Wootton	1
W. F. Maitland, Esq., b Grundy	0		
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	5		
J. Round, Esq., c Pooley, b Wootton	0		
A. Appleby, Esq., b Wootton	1		
B. 5, l. b. 5	10	B. 1, l. b. 3	4
	87		55

The Gentlemen winning by eight wickets.

At the Oval, *July* 15, 16, *and* 17, 1867.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., l b w, b Shaw	7	c Pooley, b Hickton	71
R. D. Walker, Esq., run out	8	c and b Hickton	3
A. Lubbock, Esq., b Lillywhite	20	not out	107
B. B. Cooper, Esq., c Griffith, b Shaw	2	b Griffith	29

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
I. D. Walker, Esq., c Griffith, b Shaw	0	not out	10
A. W. T. Daniel, Esq., c Pooley, b Shaw	17	c Jupp, b Griffith	0
W. F. Maitland, Esq., run out	22	b Lillywhite	6
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Lillywhite	1		
J. Round, Esq., b Hickton	29	b Lillywhite	0
E. W. Tritton, Esq., not out	17	c Ricketts, b Shaw	15
W. F. Traill, Esq., run out	9		
B. 1, l. b. 2, w. 1	4	B. 1, l. b. 2	3
	136		244

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
Jupp, c Round, b R. D. Walker	25
Humphrey, c Round, b R. D. Walker	12
Ricketts, c Round, b W. G. Grace	1
Griffith, st Round, b Maitland	22
Coward, run out	17
Pooley, c Cooper, b V. E. Walker	85
Shaw, b V. E. Walker	32
T. Hearne, run out	7
Lillywhite, not out	29
Wootton, run out	16
Hickton, st Round, b Maitland	0
B. 1, w. 2	3
	249

Drawn.

At LORD'S, *June* 29 *and* 30, 1868.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., run out	1	not out	22
B. B. Cooper, Esq., b Willsher	28	not out	0
W. G. Grace, Esq., not out	134		
C. F. Fuller, Esq., b Grundy	4	b Wootton	0
R. A. Mitchell, Esq., b Willsher	1		
H. A. Richardson, Esq., b Grundy	8		
W. F. Maitland, Esq., b Lillywhite	2		
V. E. Walker, Esq., c Pooley, b Lillywhite	5		

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
C. A. Absolom, Esq., b Lillywhite	3	c Grundy, b Lillywhite	8
J. Round, Esq., b Lillywhite	0		
R. Lipscomb, Esq., run out	7		
B. 5, l. b. 3	8	Extra	1
	201		31

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
H. Jupp, c Absolom, b W. G. Grace	4	run out	14
G Summers, b Lipscomb	5	c and b Absolom	4
J. Ricketts, c Mitchell, b W. G. Grace	1	b Lipscomb	13
James Lillywhite, c Maitland, b W. G. Grace	0	b Absolom	0
W. Mortlock, b W. G. Grace	9	l b w, b E. M. Grace	19
E. Pooley, b Lipscomb	21	c Buller, b Lipscomb	4
F. Silcock, run out	0	b W. G. Grace	26
T. Mantle, c E. M. Grace, b W. G. Grace	12	b W. G. Grace	4
G. Wootton, b W. G. Grace	8	c Richardson, b W. G. Grace	18
J. Grundy, not out	29	c E. M. Grace, b W. G. Grace	8
E. Willsher, c Round, b Absolom	22	not out	3
B. 1, l. b. 3	4	L. b. 2, w. 1	3
	115		116

The Gentlemen winning by eight wickets.

At the OVAL, *July* 2 *and* 3, 1868.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.
E. M. Grace, Esq., c Coward, b Willsher	5
B. B. Cooper, Esq., b Silcock	1
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Coward, b Silcock	19
C. F. Buller, Esq., c Pooley, b Silcock	41
I. D. Walker, Esq., c Mantle, b Silcock	165
H. A. Richardson, Esq., l b w, b Silcock	55
R. D. Walker, Esq., b Silcock	33

	1st Inn.
W. F. Maitland, Esq., c Willsher, b J. Lillywhite	10
C. A. Absolom, Esq., not out	40
V. E. Walker, Esq., b J. Lillywhite	1
D. Buchanan, Esq., b Silcock	1
B. 4, l. b. 3, w. 1	8
	379

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
T. Humphrey, c I. D. Walker, b W. G. Grace	41	c I. D. Walker, b Buchanan	1
Jupp, c Cooper, b W. G. Grace	1	b Buchanan	42
Ricketts, b W. G. Grace	0	c Cooper, b Buchanan	21
C. Coward, b Buchanan	5	c I. D. Walker, b Buchanan	8
James Lillywhite, c Maitland, b Absolom	39	st Cooper, b Absolom	37
Charlwood, c V. E. Walker, b W. G. Grace	12	c I. D. Walker, b Buchanan	3
Pooley, c Buchanan, b W. G. Grace	9	b Buchanan	31
T. A. Mantle, run out	1	c E. M. Grace, b Buchanan	0
F. Silcock, c V. E. Walker, b W. G. Grace	10	b Buchanan	11
Thewlis, c and b Absolom	4	b Buchanan	6
Willsher, not out	0	not out	0
B. 1, l. b. 2, w. 1	4	Byes	6
	126		166

The Gentlemen winning by one innings and 87 runs.

At the Oval, *June* 24, 25, *and* 26, 1869.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Summers, b Emmett	43	c and b Wootton	83
B. B. Cooper, Esq., b Wootton	6	c and b Hearne	40
W. F. Maitland, Esq., b Emmett	5	b Emmett	10
A. Lubbock, Esq., c Summers, b Silcock	43	c Silcock, b Emmett	36

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
I. D. Walker, Esq., c Emmett, b Willsher	52	c Emmett, b Silcock	31
B. Pauncefote, Esq., c Wootton, b Emmett	4	b Emmett	11
C. I. Thornton, Esq., b Silcock	4	run out	7
C. E. Green, Esq., b Emmett	1	b Emmett	3
V. E. Walker, Esq., not out	17	c Stephenson, b Silcock	20
C. Absolom, Esq., run out	14	c Jupp, b Silcock	11
D. Buchanan, Esq., b Willsher	0	not out	0
B. 4, l. b. 7	11	B. 10, l. b. 3	14
	200		266

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Summers, b Absolom	21	c Absolom, b V. E. Walker	46
Rowbotham, c I. D. Walker, b Buchanan	15	c Cooper, b Buchanan	5
T. Hearne, st Cooper, b Buchanan	14	run out	5
Jupp, b Absolom	40	c Absolom, b Grace	2
F. Silcock, st Cooper, b Buchanan	49	l b wkt, b Buchanan	40
T. Humphrey, b Absolom	6	l b wkt, b Buchanan	9
H. H. Stephenson, l b wkt, b Absolom	7	c and b W. G. Grace	3
Willsher, b Buchanan	25	b Absolom	28
Pooley, l b wkt, b Grace	19	b Absolom	52
Emmett, not out	14	b Buchanan	8
Wootton, b Absolom	10	not out	10
B. 11, l. b. 1, w. 1	13	B. 6, l. b. 2	8
	233		216

The Gentlemen winning by 17 runs.

At LORD'S, *June* 28 *and* 29, 1869.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq., b Silcock	2	c Plumb, b Silcock	30
A. N. Hornby, Esq., c Silcock, b Wootton	8	b Silcock	2
W. B. Money, Esq., b Wootton	3	b Willsher	10
A. Lubbock, Esq., b Silcock	33	b Silcock	10
B. B. Cooper, Esq., b Silcock	3	b Wootton	0

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
I. D. Walker, Esq., c Silcock, b Wootton	71	b Silcock	0
W. Yardley, Esq., run out	28	not out	39
V. E. Walker, Esq., b Willsher	5		
E. M. Grace, Esq., run out	0	b Silcock	1
C. Absolom, Esq., b Wootton	3		
A. Appleby, Esq., not out	1	not out	1
B. 2, l. b. 4	6	B. 2, l. b. 3	5
	163		98

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Summers, b Appleby	45	b Money	47
Bignall, b Appleby	0	run out	14
Jupp, b W. G. Grace	6	run out	52
Daft, b Appleby	1	c Appleby, b W. G. Grace	8
F. Silcock, c Money, b W. G. Grace	1	c Appleby, b Absolom	8
Griffith, b Appleby	2	c and b Money	0
Lockwood, run out	3	c I. D. Walker, b Money	0
T. Humphrey, c E. M. Grace, b Appleby	14	c I. D. Walker, b Money	4
Willsher, b Appleby	0	not out	24
Plumb, run out	1	b Absolom	3
Wootton, not out	2	c and b Absolom	12
B. 1, l. b. 1, w. 3	5	B. 6, l. b. 3	9
	80		180

The Gentlemen winning by three wickets.

At the Oval, *July* 14, 15, *and* 16, 1870.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Pooley, b Southerton	6	b Shaw	215
J. W. Dale, Esq., b Wootton	3	b Shaw	55
C. J. Ottaway, Esq., c Pooley, b Silcock	24	b Wootton	26
W. B. Money, Esq., b Shaw	70	not out	109

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
I. D. Walker, Esq., c Willsher, b Southerton	6	c Price, b Shaw	26
B. Pauncefote, Esq., c Southerton, b Wootton	20	b Willsher	48
G. F. Grace, Esq., c and b Silcock	0	st Pooley, b Shaw	0
C. E. Green, Esq., not out	39	c Humphrey, b Shaw	0
C. A. Absolom, Esq., b Shaw	0	c Jupp, b Southerton	9
A. Appleby, Esq., run out	11	run out	1
R. Bissett, Esq., b Shaw	16	c Southerton, b Shaw	2
B. 1, l. b. 1, w. 1	3	B. 9, l. b. 13	22
	198		513

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Jupp, c and b Absolom	10	c Bissett, b Appleby	20
T. Humphrey, c Absolom, b Appleby	7	c and b G. F. Grace	48
Silcock, c Money, b G. F. Grace	21	c Appleby, b G. F. Grace	34
Pooley, b Absolom	11	b G. F. Grace	2
Daft, c Bissett, b Absolom	27	not out	2
Shaw, st Bissett, b G. F. Grace	8		
Griffith, c Pauncefote, b G. F. Grace	6		
Price, b Absolom	4		
Willsher, not out	22		
Wootton, c Dale, b G. F. Grace	27		
Southerton, b G. F. Grace	2		
L. b. 1, w. 2	3	B. 1, l. b. 2	3
	148		109

Drawn.

At LORD'S, *July* 18 *and* 19, 1870.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq., b Hayward	109	l b w, b Farrands	11
J. W. Dale, Esq., l b w, b Farrands	2	c Shaw, b Farrands	14

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
C. J. Ottaway, Esq., c Pooley, b Shaw	0	h w, b Southerton	10
W. Yardley, Esq., c Jupp, b Farrands	22	b Southerton	4
C. E. Green, Esq., c Carpenter, b Silcock	17	b Southerton	0
I. D. Walker, Esq., st Pooley, b Farrands	22	c Southerton, b Farrands	20
G. F. Grace, Esq., b Hayward	8	c Carpenter, b Farrands	3
C. K. Francis, Esq., b Hayward	0	c Smith, b Southerton	14
A. Appleby, Esq., b Farrands	0	not out	4
C. Absolom, Esq., b Hayward	2	b Farrands	0
R. Bissett, Esq., not out	0	b Farrands	4
B. 2, l. b. 3	5	B. 2, l. b. 1	3
	187		87

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Jupp, b Appleby	13	b Francis	55
Smith, b Francis	11	c W. G. Grace, b Francis	13
Silcock, st Bissett, b Francis	8	c Bissett, b Appleby	13
Hayward, c Dale, b Appleby	1	c and b G. F. Grace	1
Carpenter, b G. F. Grace	36	b G. F. Grace	8
Pooley, b Appleby	16	c Ottaway, b Appleby	3
A. Shaw, c Dale, b Francis	8	b Francis	11
Lillywhite, c W. G. Grace, b G. F. Grace	17	b Francis	12
Price, c Bissett, b G. F. Grace	2	c Absolom, b G. F. Grace	21
Farrands, c G. F. Grace, b Appleby	1	b G. F. Grace	1
Southerton, not out	1	not out	1
B. 4, l. b. 1, w. 2	7	B. 4, l. b. 4, w. 2	10
	121		149

The Gentlemen winning by four runs.

At LORD'S, *July* 3, 4, *and* 5, 1871.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Pooley, b Shaw	50	c Southerton, b M'Intyre	37
A. N. Hornby, Esq., b Shaw	26	b Shaw	11
G. F. Grace, Esq., b M'Intyre	5	c M'Intyre, b Freeman	3
W. Yardley, Esq., b M'Intyre	51	run out	51
A. Lubbock, Esq., b Shaw	42	run out	21
W. H. Hadow, Esq., b Freeman	10	b Southerton	3
E. F. S. Tylecote, Esq., b Shaw	6	c Carpenter, b Southerton	10
A. Appleby, Esq., b Freeman	0	c Carpenter, b Southerton	0
S. E. Butler, Esq., b Freeman	0	b Southerton	0
I. D. Walker, Esq., not out	9	c Pooley, b Freeman	3
D. Buchanan, Esq., b Freeman	0	not out	2
B. 6, l. b. 3	9	B. 1, l. b. 2, w. 2	5
	208		146

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.
Jupp, c Lubbock, b Appleby	29
J. Smith, st Tylecote, b Buchanan	5
Lockwood, c Hornby, b W. Grace	76
M. M'Intyre, c Tylecote, b Buchanan	49
Daft, b Buchanan	0
Pooley, st Tylecote, b Buchanan	8
Carpenter, b Appleby	7
W. Oscroft, st Tylecote, b Buchanan	3
Freeman, not out	2
Southerton, b Buchanan	0
J. C. Shaw, b Appleby	0
B. 1	1
	180

Drawn.

At the OVAL, *July* 6, 7, *and* 8, 1871.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq., c Southerton, b A. Shaw	16	c Southerton, b J. C. Shaw	43
A. N. Hornby, Esq., l b w, b A. Shaw	12	l b w, b J. C. Shaw	0
W. H. Hadow, Esq., c Daft, b J. C. Shaw	97		
A. Lubbock, Esq., b A. Shaw	0		
B. Pauncefote, Esq., b A. Shaw	2	c and b J. C. Shaw	7
C. E. Green, Esq., b A. Shaw	12	not out	57
E. F. Tylecote, Esq., c Carpenter, b Southerton	26	run out	
I. D. Walker, Esq., c Pooley, b Hayward	67	st Pooley, b Southerton	
G. F. Grace, Esq., not out	61	not out	7
S. E. Butler, Esq., b J. C. Shaw	0		
D. Buchanan, Esq., b J. C. Shaw	4		
B. 1, w. 1	2	L. b.	3
	299		145

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Jupp, c W. G. Grace, b Buchanan	4	c and b Hadow	72
Smith, run out	5	b W. G. Grace	18
Charlwood, c Walker, b Buchanan	0	c Lubbock, b Buchanan	3
Daft, c Hadow, b Buchanan	11	not out	68
Carpenter, not out	72	c Lubbock, b Hadow	9
Hayward, c W. G. Grace, b Buchanan	1	c W. G. Grace, b Buchanan	1
Pooley, b Butler	21	c Butler, b Hadow	33
Lillywhite, c and b W. G. Grace	39	b Hadow	3
A. Shaw, c Walker, b Buchanan	6	c Tylecote, b Buchanan	38
Southerton, b Buchanan	2	b Buchanan	0
J. C. Shaw, b Butler	18	c W. G. Grace, b Buchanan	0
L. b.	3	B. 10, l. b. 3, w. 2	15
	182		260

The Gentlemen winning by five wickets.

At LORD'S, *July* 1, 2, *and* 3, 1872.

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Jupp (Surrey), b Powys	3	b Powys	21
R. Humphrey (Surrey), h w, b Buchanan	46	b Powys	1
Lockwood (Yorks.), st Bissett, b Buchanan	19	b Buchanan	60
Daft (Notts), b Appleby	0	b Appleby	102
Carpenter (Cambridge), c Hornby, b Buchanan	3	c Powys, b Appleby	29
Smith (Cambridge), c Hornby, b Buchanan	5	c Yardley, b Buchanan	0
Pooley (Surrey), b Appleby	12	c Bisset, b Buchanan	0
M. M'Intyre (Notts), c Bisset, b Buchanan	0	c Ottaway, b Buchanan	2
A. Shaw (Notts), c Yardley, b Buchanan	14	b Buchanan	17
Southerton (Sussex), not out	15	b Powys	6
J. C. Shaw (Notts), b Buchanan	12	not out	9
B. 2, l. b. 4, w. 1	7	B. 19, l. b. 7, w. 1	27
	136		274

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq. (Private), c Southerton, b J. C. Shaw	77	c Jupp, b A. Shaw	112
A. N. Hornby, Esq. (Harrow), b M'Intyre	10	c M'Intyre, b J. C. Shaw	14
C. J. Ottaway, Esq. (Eton), b J. C. Shaw	15	c Lockwood, b A. Shaw	48
J. W. Dale, Esq. (Tonbridge), b J. C. Shaw	9	not out	13
W. Yardley, Esq. (Rugby), st Pooley, b J. C. Shaw	20	not out	27
I. D. Walker, Esq. (Harrow), b M'Intyre	15		
G. F. Grace, Esq. (Private), b M'Intyre	17		

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
A. Appleby, Esq. (Private), b M'Intyre	11		
W. N. Powys, Esq. (Durham School), b M'Intyre	0		
R. Bissett, Esq. (Private), b J. C. Shaw	3		
D. Buchanan, Esq. (Rugby), not out	0		
B. 4, l. b. 6	10	B. 9, l. b. 3	12
	187		226

The Gentlemen winning by seven wickets.

At the OVAL, *July* 4 *and* 5, 1872.

THE GENTLEMEN.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
W. G. Grace, Esq. (Private), b Shaw	117		
C. J. Ottaway, Esq. (Eton), b Emmett	7		
A. N. Hornby, Esq. (Harrow), c Humphrey, b Southerton	80		
W. Yardley, Esq. (Rugby), st Pooley, b Shaw	83	not out	9
C. E. Green, Esq. (Uppingham), b Southerton	9		
I. D. Walker, Esq. (Harrow), b Shaw	3		
G. F. Grace, Esq. (Private), b Shaw	0	not out	0
M. Turner, Esq. (Cheltenham), c Carpenter, b Southerton	19		
G. Strachan, Esq. (Cheltenham), b M'Intyre	6		
E. A. Brice, Esq. (Cheltenham), b M'Intyre	0	b Shaw	4
D. Buchanan, Esq. (Rugby), not out	0		
B. 6, l. b. 8	14	Extras	0
	338		13

THE PLAYERS.

	1st Inn.		2nd Inn.
Jupp (Surrey) b Buchanan	7	c and b Walker	39
R. Humphrey (Surrey), c and b Walker	96	c W. G. Grace, b Buchanan	5
Lockwood (Yorkshire), b Brice	6	c Yardley, b Walker	24
Daft (Notts), c Strachan, b Buchanan	5	retired hurt	27
Carpenter (Cambridgeshire), b Brice	2	c and b Walker	4
J. Smith (Cambridgeshire), c Strachan, b Buchanan	1	c Turner, b. Walker	9
Pooley (Surrey), b Buchanan	2	l b w, b Green	47
M. M'Intyre (Notts), c Ottaway, b Brice	1	l b w, Strachan	15
Emmett (Yorkshire), c Walker, b Brice	0	b Buchanan	1
Southerton (Sussex), not out	39	c Turner, b Strachan	3
J. C. Shaw (Notts), c Strachan, b Walker	1	not out	0
B. 7, l. b. 1	8	B. 8	8
	168		182

The Gentlemen winning by nine wickets.

THE END.

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